

JPRS 78742

13 August 1981

Latin America Report

No. 2352

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Indexes to this report (by keyword, author, personal names, title and series) are available from Bell & Howell, Old Mansfield Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

13 August 1981

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2352

CONTENTS

ENERGY ECONOMICS

GUATEMALA

Briefs

New Petroleum Find	1
Usumacinta Use Questioned	1

COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Ministers Agree To Reactivate Common Market (DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA, 9 Jul 81)	2
Venezuelan, Colombian Military Forces Compared (EL TIEMPO, 17 Jul 81)	4

ARGENTINA

Failure of CGT Strike Analyzed (LA NACION, 23 Jul 81, LA PRENSA, 23 Jul 81)	6
Historical Precedent Lack of Confidence, by Manfred Schonfeld	

COSTA RICA

Union Leader Discusses Country's Critical Situation (Enrique Mora Interview; JUVENTUD REBELDE, 1 Jun 81)	12
---	----

CUBA

Education Minister Reviews Education Progress (GRANMA WEEKLY, 5 Jul 81)	14
--	----

Rafael Rodriguez Addresses CMEA Session (GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW, 12 Jul 81)	18
Military Enterprises Hold Review Meeting (Ruben Fonseca; VERDE OLIVO, 14 Jun 81)	22
Premium Pay for Service Workers Discussed (Adolfo Gomez; JUVENTUD REBELDE, 10 Jun 81)	23
High School Graduates Work Program Explained (JUVENTUD REBELDE, 10 Jun 81)	25
FAR Political Sections Hold National Meeting (VERDE OLIVO, 14 Jun 81)	26
MININT 20th Anniversary Held, Fidel Castro Presides (VERDE OLIVO, 14 Jun 81).....	27
Best EJT Brigade in Current Cane Harvest Honored (Miguel Benitez; VERDE OLIVO, 21 Jun 81).....	30
Havana Views Guatemalan Situation, Proposed SATO (VERDE OLIVO, 14 Jun 81).....	32
Guatemala: Guerrilla Offensive South Atlantic Alliance, by Roberto Morejon	
New Plays on Antisocial Behavior Discussed (JUVENTUD REBELDE, 13 May 81; VERDE OLIVO, 28 Jun 81).....	37
'Rampa Arriba' Reviewed, by Carlos Espinosa Play on Peruvian Embassy Incident, by E. Alberto	
GUATEMALA	
Briefs	
Political Party Seeks Investigation	41
NICARAGUA	
'LA PRENSA' Editor Pedro Chamorro Interviewed (Pedro Chamorro Interview; O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 26 Jul 81).....	42
Reportage on 29 July National Forum (Managua Radio Corporacion, 29 Jul 81; Managua Radio Sandino, 25 Jul 81).....	48
Opposition Divided on Usefulness FPR Parties Won't Discuss Laws	

Military Preparedness Best Response to Threats (Managua Radio Sandino, 25 Jul 81).....	51
---	----

PERU

Medical Federation, CGTP Call for General Strike (AFP, 31 Jul 81).....	52
---	----

Future Latin American-French Ties Viewed Dimly (Gerardo Calderon; EXPRESO, 12 Jul 81).....	54
---	----

Briefs

Terrorists Attack Ayacucho	56
Cerro De Pasco Water Supply	56
Huaraz, Recuay Attack	56
Punishment of Terrorists	56
Respect for Human Rights	57
Aprista Chairman Resigns	57
Asylum to Foreigners	58

URUGUAY

Connotations of Middendorf's Visit Assessed (Oscar Martinez; AFP, 22 Jul 81).....	59
--	----

Blanco Party Issues Communique on Current Problems (AFP, 31 Jul 81).....	61
---	----

Large Group of Political Leaders Rehabilitated (Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network, 27 Jul 81).....	63
--	----

Briefs

More Politicians Rehabilitated	65
Former President Rehabilitated	65
Army Commander Retires	65
Prisoner Death Questioned	66
Uruguayan-Spanish Agreement	66

BRIEFS

NEW PETROLEUM FIND--A new deposit of petroleum has been found in Caribe Uno well, area I, Alta Verapaz Department, according to an announcement made yesterday in a press conference by Jorge Luis Monzon, secretary of mines, hydrocarbons and nuclear energy. The conference was held at the office of journalist Carlos Toledo Viemann, public relations secretary at the Office of the Presidency, and attended by Viemann and Erick Meza Durate, undersecretary of mines and hydrocarbons. Monzon reported that the new find occurred in Caribe Uno well, area I, Alta Verapaz Department, and that the well had been drilled by ELF-Aquitaine; the crude oil appeared at a depth of 7,200 feet and is expected to yield an initial daily production of 800 barrels. On the same occasion, the hydrocarbons official stated that, after further technical tests, the new well will be put on a commercial basis and that there are good prospects for other productive wells in the vicinity. He also said that, if all goes well with Guatemala's oil policy which, although obviously slow in producing results due to technical reasons, is proving to be beneficial to the country, by 1982 we shall be producing 12,000 barrels of oil daily, thus providing Guatemala with an annual income of 72.5 million quetzales. "The next oil shipment," he said in answer to a reporter, "will be made from Santo Tomas de Castilla in a few days and will amount to 130,000 barrels, as is occurring every month, with the same average quantity of crude oil." [Text] [Guatemala DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 8 Jul 81 p 5] 8568

USUMACINTA USE QUESTIONED--"A hydroelectric project on the Usumacinta River cannot be carried out unilaterally. It is a border river and any use of its waters must be made jointly," journalist Carlos Toledo Viemann, public relations secretary at the Office of the Presidency, said yesterday. The official was referring to statements made by Peten Governor Guillermo Pellecer Robles, who reported that "Mexico is planning to build a hydroelectric plant on the Usumacinta River without reaching an agreement with the Guatemalan Government." Toledo Viemann pointed out that the Mexican and Guatemalan Governments had appointed joint committees representing both countries to discuss the engineering requirements involved in the construction of the hydroelectric plant. "A project of this type," he said, "cannot be carried out unilaterally inasmuch as the Usumacinta waters will have to be used by both countries. I do not know how far the engineering on this project has advanced, but I insist that the project must be carried out jointly by the Guatemalan and Mexican Governments." [Text] [Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 15 Jul 81 p 16] 8568

CSO: 3010/1578

MINISTERS AGREE TO REACTIVATE COMMON MARKET

Guatemala DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 9 Jul 81 p 6

[Text] Reactivation of the Central American Common Market was one of the principal resolutions adopted during a meeting of Central American ministers of economy held at the end of last week at ECLA headquarters in Mexico City.

This decision was announced yesterday by Valentin Solorzano Fernandez, Guatemala's minister, during a press conference at his office.

A Success

The minister called the meeting a success in view of the resolutions passed and the fact that this action was the result of initiative by our country.

Among the resolutions approved, it was agreed to coordinate any efforts made by Central American countries to obtain foreign aid and to coordinate the degree of representation of the various countries of the isthmus in the forums at which this type of aid will be administered.

It was further resolved to give the world the impression that efforts are being made on behalf of a system of integration and that such efforts are being carried out jointly without interfering with each country's individual administration.

A resolution was also passed to continue the practice of reviewing tariff and customs regulations, support the recently established Central American Common Market and coordinate and consult on the coffee problem which is presently affecting producer countries.

In addition, the ministers agreed to meet as often as necessary. One of the most conspicuous developments was the position taken by Nicaragua, Costa Rica and El Salvador in favor of reactivating the Central American Common Market.

Area's Present Requirements--\$20 Billion

Solorzano Fernandez also revealed that Central America needs about \$20 billion to maintain its present rate of development.

Representatives at Meeting

The following were present at the meeting held in the Mexican capital:
Honduran Economy Minister Ruben Mondragon; Guatemalan Economy Minister Valentin Solorzano; Nicaraguan Industry and Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca; Honduran Finance and Public Credit Minister Valentin Mendoza; Nicaraguan Integration Director Orlando Solorzano; Jose Miguel Alfaro, Costa Rica's second vice minister of industry and commerce; Jorge Alberto Pena, El Salvador's vice minister of planning; Guatemala's Vice Minister of Economy Gilberto Corzo; Ramon Medina, of Honduras; and Dr Gerth Rosenthal, secretary of ECLS in Mexico City.

8568

CSO: 3010/1578

VENEZUELAN, COLOMBIAN MILITARY FORCES COMPARED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 17 Jul 81 p 6-A

[Text] Caracas, 15 Jul 1981--Venezuela spends three times as much as Colombia on military equipment, but its armed forces are less in number though they have better war materiel at their disposal, a local magazine underscored here today.

The magazine ZETA, which is published in Caracas, dedicated all of its latest edition to a comparative study of the military power of the two neighboring countries pointing out that "Colombia has some 150,000 men under arms--if the 60,000 men of its National Police are included--of whom 63,000 belong to the Army organized into 10 infantry brigades."

"The armaments of the Colombian Army include M4 medium tanks, M3-A1 light tanks, M8 and M20 armored vehicles, 48 105mm guns and 40 40mm guns," it pointed out.

"The Colombian Navy has some 9,000 effectives, of whom 3,000 are marines," it noted.

"The Colombian Navy has two 209-class submarines, two pocket submarines, three destroyers, six frigates, 16 small patrol boats and a craft for transporting tanks," it said.

"The Colombian Air Force has grown rapidly to a strength of 6,000 men with 18 French Mirage planes, of which 14 are warplanes (Mirage 5 COA) and 4 are trainers. It has a bombing squadron equipped with B-26 Invaders and a few Lockheed AT-33's," it added.

The Venezuelan magazine also pointed out that "The Colombian Air Force has one C-130 Hercules, 23 C-47 and five C-54 planes for transportation purposes."

Venezuelan Armament

In the view of ZETA, "on paper, the Venezuelan Army shows up with 27,000 men, somewhat less than half of those of the Colombian. The superiority of the Venezuelan depends on 142 ZMX30 tanks and an additional 40 AMX13 lighter tanks of French manufacture."

"Venezuelan artillery appears superior to the Colombian with 135 105.1mm guns and 20 AMX tanks armed with 155mm howitzers," the publication added.

"The Venezuelan Navy has some 9,000 men plus 4,000 marines, and has four somewhat obsolete frigates as well as six missile-launching frigates recently acquired from Italy. There are four operational destroyers, four submarines under construction, six torpedo boats and 21 coastal launches," it pointed out.

"The Venezuelan missile frigates have individual AB-212 helicopters for anti-submarine warfare," the magazine ZETA noted.

"The Venezuelan Air Force has some 5,000 effectives and 240 aircraft of various kinds, and its two combat groups are equipped with Northrop F-5 and Mirage planes.

"The F-5's are fast airplanes. Some 15 of them are fighter-bombers and four are reconnaissance planes and trainers," it said.

"There are also four Mirage-5 fighter-bombers, nine Mirage-3's and another two Mirage trainers, as well as 20 F-86 fighter-bombers and 22 British Canberra bombers."

8414

CSO: 3010/1583

FAILURE OF CGT STRIKE ANALYZED

Historical Precedent

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Jul 81 p 9

[Text] One afternoon in the summer of 1975, Mr Jose Maria Villone showed up at the old editorial offices of LA NACION on San Martin Street. He made an ostentatious entrance, surrounded by an impressively large convoy of well-known faces. Bodyguards are, in fact, meant to impress, but they impress all the more when they are prominent government figures. At that time, the nation did not know whether Mr Villone was a "prominent figure" because he was President Martinez de Peron's press secretary or because, no less significantly, he was a well-known figure in what Mario Firmenich the Montonero described a few hours ago as "Lopez Rega's Mafia."

What was not in doubt in the summer of 1975 was that Mr Villone was acting as a full-fledged servant of the man who was still social welfare minister, the former lieutenant but by then chief of ordnance, Lopez Rega. It was a time when veteran political feature writers lent a silently indifferent ear to the threats that one or another thug or crony leveled at the press every so often because they were annoyed by a piece of writing that rubbed them the wrong way. On that occasion, the only one we remember that he descended on LA NACION, Mr Villone was extremely worked up. The temperature on that afternoon of January 1975 was far from comfortable, and our visitor's temperature made it even more uncomfortable. Thus, Mr Villone had to take off his jacket to continue his protest over a commentary in which Minister Lopez Rega did not come out looking too good. The commentary had unquestionably touched on one of the most sensitive aspects of Mr Villone's boss's political situation: his strained relations with the Armed Forces, viewed in light of the complications that arose in the Massera-Mrs Peron-Lopez Rega triangle after the president took a vacation in Mar del Plata, where she stayed at Chapadmalal and the Marine Non-Commissioned Officers School.

When it looked like Mr Villone had finished essaying all of the favorable arguments that could be expected of him in connection with Lopez Rega, he uttered one final argument, one last appeal explaining why we should support him: "The liberals are making a serious mistake by attacking Lopez Rega," he said, "because he is the only obstacle preventing the labor leaders, starting with Lorenzo Miguel, from making Peronism a Labor Party."

From Illia to Lopez Rega

Four months later, in May 1975, Economy Minister Celestino Rodrigo was pushed over the edge by Casildo Herrera, the secretary general of the CGT [General Labor Confederation], and Lorenzo Miguel, the secretary general of "the 62" Peronist Trade Union Organizations. Rodrigo had been a Lopez Rega protegee, and his downfall, universally known as "el Rodrigazo," led to exile 30 days later for the astrologer who had climbed the highest amid the quicksands of Argentine politics. We could not in all truth say that during the union mobilization that shattered Lopez Rega's far-reaching power, most of the superior officers of the Armed Forces were apathetic about the ultimate outcome. After all, it was up to these officers to finish the operation off, because they were the ones who put the former social welfare minister on the plane that took him out of the country.

A chapter remains to be written on the relations between the army and Argentine politics in recent decades. It will have to discuss how some sector of the military might have actively accompanied Peronist labor leaders during the 1960's, when the battle plan against Dr Illia's constitutional government was launched. We now have some usable reference material in this regard in the form of Timerman's confessions to General Camps when he was detained in the latter's custody. "I was the founder and editor of CONFIRMADO," he told his guard. "The magazine's main incentive, main goal was to lay the groundwork for the overthrow of Arturo Illia, on the assumption that the Armed Forces would occupy the power vacuum, because that was our theory, the power vacuum, and that the figure we had to put before the public was General Ongania."

We are finally now learning the details about things we always assumed we knew. When all is said and done, what did it all mean when the big shots in the Peronist labor movement attended Ongania's inauguration wearing ties and other finery?

New Developments

Of course the Peronist labor leaders later tried to turn against the military regime that began in June 1966, but they failed in several rash attempts, among other reasons because of dissension among their ranks. Nevertheless, if we compare yesterday's rally with similar rallies in the 1950's and 1960's, we will notice that union power is more divided than ever and that labor protests are child's play compared to 10, 15 or 20 years ago. Whether we liked it or not, a work stoppage used to be more or less what the word denotes. "Stoppage" obviously comes from "to stop." But what connection is there between "to stop" and the rally that, according to general estimates, more than 80 percent of the country's production work force ignored, even including among the strikers those who have been laid off?

True, this time we cannot point to suspicions that one or another military group or sector encouraged the stoppage. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that never before have we had so many reasons to conjecture that in certain manu-

facturing lines (textiles or metallurgy perhaps?) the owners did not offer convincing resistance to a worker battle plan.

Yesterday's partial and, therefore, unsuccessful work stoppage was intended to be a self-styled example of former Peronist labor movement practices. No one better than a true nonparticipant like Mr Lorenzo Miguel, who was traveling in Europe yesterday, embodies this new eagerness to resurrect the old and seemingly outmoded idea that without "the 62" Peronism is nothing. We must therefore conclude that Deolindo Bittel, the notary, had a keen grasp of the situation when the day before yesterday at the multiparty meeting he turned a cold shoulder to the appeal by another of his fellow party members to elicit from the five attending parties a declaration of explicit solidarity with the rally of the so-called "CGT." If the labor leaders become more important, what role will politicians like Bittel be left with?

We quite properly said the so-called "CGT" because its show of strength yesterday is not in keeping with a true labor union federation. In any case, the name still poses an inconvenience (that will have to be resolved somewhere along the road) for everyone and particularly for its adversaries in the National Labor Commission (Jorge Triacca, Luis Guerrero) and the Commission of "the 20," which did not support the work stoppage.

The General Context

Meanwhile, we should not lose sight of the general context in assessing yesterday's rally. More people than we can remember in the past are saying today that the country is going through its worst economic crisis ever; the workers' buying power has been declining across-the-board; the unemployment rate has been nearing the critical five percent mark, and in a nutshell, there is appreciable nationwide dissatisfaction with the course of events. In light of all this and given the encouragement that the Communist Party and other kindred forces (which had reservations about the April 1979 strike) gave to the Peronist labor leaders who organized yesterday's protest, how could the demonstration have been so relatively ineffectual? The greatest irony that a police chief can allow himself was afforded yesterday morning to General Sasiain, who at an early hour felt he could reasonably take half of the special surveillance service troops he had assigned off the job.

One backed the work stoppage; the other wanted no strike and a social truce. In a nutshell, two union factions vied yesterday for something that might by this time be impossible now that Peron is dead: control over all of the labor forces that rally to the ambiguous cry of "the banners of Peronism."

Without Ideological Substance

The protest a few hours ago by part of the Peronist labor movement showed what populism consists of: sheer action, devoid of ideological substance, contrary to what Mrs Peron's press secretary thought he saw in this labor movement. It was union member against union member yesterday in a bid to strengthen one faction and give it decision-making capability over the other. Years ago they also invoked the name of Mrs Peron, thus hoping to govern through her. And they

also took up arms against the Montoneros and the ERP [People's Revolutionary Army], but without providing a properly clarified ideological response. With their weapons and with the assertion that Peron was the sole authority, organized labor confronted Firmenich and company, just as in 1962 they challenged Peron's authority and forced him to accept the electoral showdown that he was opposed to.

Looking at the overall context, we must conclude that yesterday's stoppage was an even bigger failure than the last general strike ordered in April 1979 by the Commission of "the 25," the predecessor of the "CGT." Mere action, ordered from the top down, has been insufficient in itself to produce a truly serious happening in the country.

Apart from this, the union members who still support Mrs Peron's "leadership" will have time to reflect on the prospects that might be opened up by this fellow Firmenich, who has just said without batting an eye that the release of "Isabelita" was "a triumph of the people."

Lack of Confidence

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Jul 81 p 18

[Article by Manfred Schonfeld: "The Protest That Went Unvoiced"]

[Text] The protest that was supposed to have been expressed through yesterday's "rally" (a general work stoppage, in other words) has for now been held back and has gone unvoiced. There was a work stoppage, but it was very limited. It was not the genuinely large-scale strike that would have virtually shut the country down, as its organizers (the labor leaders of the so-called new "CGT" [General Labor Confederation]) had anticipated and as certain segments of the population had been expecting, some fearfully, others hopefully.

It makes little sense to bandy about percentages of absenteeism in this or that line of production or services. Numbers can easily get confused, especially in the case of industries in which, in any event, an increasing number of companies have closed down either because of a lack of work, because they are being liquidated or because they have gone bankrupt.

One thing is certain: no matter how relatively important the absenteeism figures and percentages are (for the reasons I have noted and for others), the general strike was not successful; it failed.

When a work stoppage like this (whether you call it a "protest rally" or a "general strike" and whether or not it is political in nature) is successful, you can sense it in the air, and there is no need to compare numbers from official, semiofficial or private sources. When a country is shut down by decision of its union organizations (whether labor unions, employer unions or a combination of the two, examples of all of which are to be found in world history), public opinion feels and takes note of it in a practically natural way.

If we gauge yesterday's events on this basis, it becomes obvious that the protest did not hit home with the masses.

Reason for Failure

Although I do not feel it would be of much interest to examine (even for immediate journalistic purposes) the ups and downs of the absenteeism curves by field of employment or geographic area, partly because of the aforementioned difficulties in establishing figures that accurately represent the facts, I do feel, however, that we ought to reflect on the reason for the strike's failure.

I feel that among the several explanations that could be cited, three stand out. Two are relatively superficial, while the other might represent an attempt to analyze the matter a bit more deeply.

Of the two explanations that I termed superficial, one will more than likely be advanced by the government. It will simply claim that if the "protest rally" failed, it was because most of the public did not heed the appeal by its organizers and that if they did not heed it, it was because, in good conscience, most of the public does not feel a need to protest or to join a protest and that if they do not feel this need, it is because, in general, things are not as bad as some people (the government's critics in particular) say they are.

The other explanation (which I also termed superficial) is the one we can expect from the organizers of the "rally." For the time being, they will try to demonstrate that it was not a failure, point out all of the organizational and other difficulties that hampered the prospects for success and claim that many wage earners were afraid that their employers would use their absence as a pretext to try and fire them without compensation, etc.

They will also advance the argument, if not publicly, at least in private, that the absenteeism in the manufacturing sector should be considered double what the cold figures indicate, inasmuch as public transportation was in operation; in other words, the workers who took part in the stoppage did so with the knowledge that they could not cite the lack of transportation as an excuse.

A Possible Deeper Reason: Lack of Trust

As I suggested, the two explanations I have outlined (which are diametrically opposed in terms of their source and purpose) touch merely the surface of current realities in Argentina.

My interpretation of the present situation is that the country's population is more deeply mired in disbelief and lack of trust than in any other period of its recent history.

They do not trust the authorities, but they do not trust political leaders either. As far as organized labor is concerned, they do not even trust heads of unions, some of which are intervened while others are guided by bosses and chiefs of days gone by whose authority has not been put to the test, who have not agreed to have their mandates renewed by the rank-and-file and who are suspected by the masses that make up the rank-and-file (more than likely quite rightly in many cases) of either not being as honest as they seem, of making deals with whomever is available (government, business, etc) without consulting the rank-and-file or of knowingly acting against the will of the rank-and-file or of being responsive to other partisan interests.

Behind the Back of the Sovereign

If we start with the premise that in a republic, in a democratic system the citizenry is the sovereign, then our citizenry must be noticing that there are more and more groups in our country that are acting behind the back of the sovereign, and not just temporarily or during a brief time of emergency, but rather with prospects that such a situation will become something lasting and institutionalized.

These groups consist of all those who are in some way involved in the interplay of powers (government leaders, military officers with political power, civilians who are allied with these military officers, party leaders who hope to ally themselves with the military and with the civilians who have power, and last but not least, prominent labor leaders who have been in such alliances for some time now or who entertain the hope of entering one).

With each passing day, our sovereign citizens feel more and more powerless vis-a-vis the densely intertwined tangle of all these forces, increasingly fed up with seeing how they operate behind their backs or over their heads, and less and less in the mood to denounce what they by now accept (after so many repeated disappointments) as a supposedly incurable national malady.

If there was no large-scale protest yesterday, I do not think it was because there is no reason to protest. There are more than enough reasons; even a child can see that. Nor do I think that it was because the protest was organized by one sector instead of another; organizational shortcomings do not cause large-scale demonstrations to flop when people really want to express what they feel.

The reason for the failure is that events (the sum total of events, the conclusions that people arrive at based on them) are winning out over most Argentines by default. People do not expect major changes; they are resigned, have too many problems of their own and have even lost their desire to protest.

If the government thinks, however, that this reflection of the country's socio-labor and spiritual realities has not led it a victory, it is wrong. It's better to mount a skittish animal than one that is being, shall we say, worn out.

8.43

CSO: 3010/1611

UNION LEADER DISCUSSES COUNTRY'S CRITICAL SITUATION

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE 1 Jun 81 p 4

[Interview with Enrique Mora, Trade Union leader and delegate of the newspaper employees of that country and to the sixth Latin American Seminar of Journalists.]

"The critical situation in which the people of Costa Rica live becomes more difficult and delicate due to the sizeable concessions obtained by the agricultural and industrial bourgeoisie and certain transnational companies which have brought the country to the worst economic crisis in the last five decades."

The foregoing was told to this newspaper by Enrique Mora, member of the Journalists' Trade Union of Costa Rica and delegate to the Sixth Latin American Seminar of Journalists which is meeting at the Union of Cuban Journalists [UPEC] headquarters in Havana. Mora pointed out the facts which engulf Costa Rica in an economic collapse: the 50 percent devaluation on the currency, increase in unemployment, the bankruptcy of many small and medium-sized businesses as well as wide-spread social deterioration. All this, as to be expected, has provoked a reaction from the country's working masses.

The traditional political parties, adds Enrique Mora, tied to the interests of the bourgeoisie and imperialism maintain that the difficult situation existing in Costa Rica will be resolved once the new government is installed after the elections scheduled for next year. However, he added, this is nothing but an optical illusion, since the International Monetary Fund (IMF) controls economic life of the country and will continue to make the rules for the new leaders to follow.

Mora stated "It is no secret that imperialism openly manipulates the political and economic life, not only of Costa Rica, but of many other nations on the continent."

He pointed out that an example of what was stated previously is the 41 million dollar loan which the Costa Rican Government had requested from the IMF in order to ameliorate in some way the deteriorated economic situation. Notwithstanding, surprisingly, the IMF granted 345 million dollars together with the approval of the United States Senate of a donation of 25 million dollars more, but tied to the condition that Costa Rica comply with strict orders from Washington.

One of the orders, he pointed out, was that the Costa Rican Government break consular relations with Cuba, together with similar undertakings in the international sphere. In the national arena, state expenditures of a social nature have already started to be reduced drastically and affect the fields of health, housing construction, education, and the work plans for popular recreation.

Likewise, Mora pointed out that the break in consular relations with Cuba was defended by his country's government based on a document which Cuba had circulated in the United Nations last December 30, and which became known by "chance" five months later, but it is not by coincidence that the Carazo government repeats it just when millions in IMF "aid" and the new North American administration becomes feasible.

Enrique Mora stated finally that, faced with the ever deepening recession, the popular responses have not been long in coming and during the last few weeks Costa Rican workers have intensified their protests. Strikes have been initiated to demand lower prices for necessities, better wages and a guarantee of no lay-offs.

9678
3010/1500

EDUCATION MINISTER REVIEWS EDUCATION PROGRESS

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY in English 5 Jul 81 pp 3-4

[Text]

Comrade Deputies:



IT GIVES me great satisfaction to present to the National Assembly of People's Power this report on the achievements, difficulties, shortcomings and immediate perspectives of education in our country. Since the document was sent to you in advance you will by now have been able to verify how the changes introduced in the field of education over the past 22 years of revolutionary endeavor are amply and minutely recorded in it. My task now is to elaborate on its fundamental aspects, making reference also to the Ministry of Higher Education, which is an integral part of the National Education System.

It is truly a wide gap that separates our present educational development from what existed before the Revolution. Before 1959, education was conditioned by economic, cultural and social underdevelopment, and throughout the history of the neocolonial republic it was one of the sectors that showed the utter neglect and lack of attention with which it was regarded. Schools today, with their principals, teachers, students, administrative and service staffs, are genuine state institutions for learning and teaching. Under the direction of the Party and supported by the youth and mass organizations, they are fully integrated into the process of constructing a new socialist society, a society of which they are one of the main products.

The population census taken in 1953 revealed the deplorable conditions education was in at that time. Out of a population of 4.4 million people over ten years of age, 1 032 000 were totally illiterate — 23.6 percent of that population. A total of 547 000 children between six and 12 years of age were not enrolled in school, and school attendance of those that were enrolled averaged 60.8 percent.

Nowadays Cuba is one giant school: one out of every three inhabitants is studying. If we exclude children under six, the figure becomes one out of every two.

The average educational level of the population is 6th grade, and conditions now exist for raising that average by approximately one grade every three years.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's description of education before the Revolution in *History Will Absolve Me* is an impressive accusation:

"Our educational system is perfectly compatible with everything I've just mentioned. Where the peasant doesn't own the land, what need is there for agricultural schools? Where there is no industry, what need is there for technical and vocational schools? Everything follows the same absurd logic; if we don't have one thing we can't have the other. In any small European country there are more than 200 technical and vocational schools; in Cuba only six such schools exist and the graduates have no jobs for their skills. The little rural schoolhouses are attended by a mere half of the school-age children — barefooted, half-naked and undernourished — and frequently the teacher must buy necessary school materials from his own salary. Is this the way to make a nation great?"

The panorama presented by the old society in 1958 can be summarized in the following figures. Only 56.4 percent of the children were enrolled in elementary school, and just 88 000 teenagers attended intermediate level schools; 10 000 teachers were unemployed and the budget of the Ministry of Education amounted to just 79.4 million pesos (11 pesos per inhabitant). What actually went into education was substantially less since many millions found their way into the pockets of the corrupt politicians of the time.

But depressing as it was, that situation could not prevent Cuban public schools from always being a storehouse of the fighting history of our people, their heroes and the best cultural traditions of Cuban nationality. The thoughts of prominent teachers of the last century — Varela, Luz Caballero and Mendive; the teachings of Martí; the unyielding rebelliousness of Frank País and Pepito Tey; these are some of the highest expressions of the patriotism of many Cuban educators who did their best to build better schools and a greater nation.

And today over 1.5 million children in that nation are attending elementary school and over 1 170 000 teenagers are enrolled in intermediate education; some 200 000 future professionals are being trained at university level; over 950 000 students in the various types and levels of education are reaping the benefits of boarding and semi-boarding schools; we now have over 210 000 educational workers, a political, ideological, scientific and technical force whose professional level is constantly rising. In this nation we have earmarked 1349 million pesos annually for educational expenses, equivalent to 138 pesos a year per inhabitant.

The Revolution inherited a centralized and corrupt educational administration, public schools that lacked everything, while the private schools were attended by the children of the privileged class, whose uniforms served to emphasize class divisions instead of identifying the type or level of education being received by children and young people.

The same evils also afflicted the universities. Enrollment there was structured to conform essentially to the interests of the bourgeoisie instead of to the needs of the country's development. For the sons and daughters of the working class, admission opportunities were practically nil. But historical tradition and prevailing objective conditions meant that the student body claimed the higher education centers as bases for agitation and struggle against corrupt politicians and against dictatorships like those of Machado and Batista, that shed so much of our people's blood.

Immediately after the triumph of the Revolution, profound changes began to be introduced in education. Examples of how the educational services were expanded in the first years were the creation of 10 000 new schools, particularly in the countryside; the conversion of army barracks into schools; and the nationalization of all private schools.

A shortage of teachers and professors was the greatest difficulty that educational development came up against in these years. But we always found revolutionary solutions. To bring education into the country's remotest areas, 3000 volunteer teachers signed up to go to the mountains and later set up the Frank País Vanguard Teachers' Brigade.

Launched in early 1961, the Ana Betancourt educational project was aimed at improving the cultural level of peasant women and helping them along the path to true liberation. Over 150 000 young girls from the mountains improved their school education and then were able to contribute to the transformation of our countryside and to take part in other tasks of the Revolution.

The Literacy Campaign, coming at the time of the great victory at Playa Girón, was another of the Cuban people's great achievements. Besides its huge educational value, it was also a key factor in the country's economic and social development. Its martyrs, Conrado Benítez (teacher), Manuel Ascunce Domínguez (student-teacher) and Delfín San Cedré (worker-teacher), all murdered by bandits in the Escambray Mountains, gave their lives to this epic endeavor.

The result of that battle was something priceless: a new principle, a concept of education which copes with it integrally, including its social aspects. This is summarized in one of our slogans: "Education is a task for us all."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Literacy Campaign and it gives us great revolutionary pride that

other peoples of the world can benefit from the experience it gave us.

After the Campaign, a mass scholarship project was announced. The first group of scholarship holders was made up of 40 000 literacy teachers. Many of the rich mansions of the bourgeoisie who had fled the country were used for this huge project, and the residential suburbs of Havana and other cities were soon overflowing with the sons and daughters of workers and peasants.

All these measures contributed to meeting the basic educational needs of children and teenagers in urban and rural areas, without distinctions of sex, race, place of residence and economic level; and in spite of the legacy of past neglect, the Moncada program was quickly carried out.

As of 1961, day-care centers were established, open to children after their 45th day of life, providing care and education in a healthy and happy environment and enabling a growing number of women to start working and take active part in the life of the society. By March 1981 over 96 000 children were enrolled in 832 day-care centers, but for several reasons places available are still below demand.

From 1959 to 1974, elementary school enrollment figures showed a steady rise. In 1975 they began to drop as a consequence of a reduction in the number of students in grades below those normal for their age group, and later because of the lowering in the birthrate. The figure now is 1 592 000 students. Owing to the large number of those who have reached the 6th grade, starting in 1972 intermediate education began to grow steadily, and accordingly higher education enrollment figures went up too. Over the five-year period just ended (1976-80), intermediate education enrollment figures went from some 629 000 students to over 1 177 000.

Special educational programs for children and young people with physical and mental handicaps and behavior problems did not exist at all before the Revolution. This year they had an enrollment of 28 000 students. In spite of the increase registered in this branch over the last few years it is still not possible to meet all needs, especially those of minors with serious behavior problems who run the risk of getting worse if they are not given adequate treatment. Steps to solve this problem are being taken at present.

The adult education program has played a leading role in helping to increase the cultural level of our people. It was organized in the wake of the Literacy Campaign and has given more than 1 400 000 people a 6th-grade education, through the systematic effort of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, the other mass organizations and the Ministry of Education. Our workers have already started the Battle for the 9th Grade, and are resolutely determined to emerge victorious and make their contribution to the economic and social development of the country.

The Revolution has always paid attention to the training of teachers and professors. The various teacher training programs which existed up to 1976 have been combined in a national network of schools in charge of training teachers to work in schools, preschools, and special education and as school librarians. The higher pedagogical institutes train personnel for teaching the intermediate levels and the Institute of Educational Improvement for working people.

All elementary school teachers who started working without the required training have now graduated. This is a very important step towards the general improvement of the quality of teaching and education as a whole, and is in line with a resolution adopted at the 1st Congress of the Party.

We should mention the important role played by the Manuel Ascunce Domenech University Pedagogical Detachment, which made it possible for students to continue studying at a time when there was a big enrollment boom at the intermediate levels.

In his closing speech at the 2nd Congress of the Young Communist League (UJC), Comrade Fidel posed the need for Cuban youth to organize a movement of 10th-grade students who would be trained as professors, combining their studies with teaching activities. This would go down in educational history as an example of a revolutionary solution, which was carried out with enthusiasm and rigor. The UJC has played a very important role in all this.

There are now more than 162 000 students in the various teacher training institutes. Of these nearly 61 000 correspond to higher pedagogical institutes, whose enrollment was only 5000 some ten years ago.

Following the victory of the Revolution more than 151 000 teachers and professors have graduated and have been active protagonists in the drive for educational development. They have made it possible for us to make our internationalist contribution to sister nations: right now more than 3500 Cuban teachers and professors are fulfilling this lofty mission in Nicaragua, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia and other parts of the world and by next September there will be 4500.

The training of skilled workers and intermediate technicians has also been given top priority.

In 1959 there were merely three dozen official institutions for technical and professional training, with an enrollment of 15 000 students. In this school year there are 403 institutions with an enrollment of 228 000 students. These figures include educational institutions which are under the jurisdiction of other state agencies and over which the Ministry of Education has methodological control.

To meet the needs of the national economy there are 110 careers for intermediate technicians and 125 for skilled workers, divided into 16 branches. The objective is to turn out specialists with a wide range of abilities.

The social and ideological factors existing prior to the Revolution which excluded women from nearly all technical professions have virtually disappeared. In the current school year, 45.7 percent of the student body, that is, more than 104 000 students, are women.

Since the victory of the Revolution more than 258 000 technicians and skilled workers have graduated from the National Education System, not to mention those of other agencies.

In many schools we have confronted problems in the training of students due to a lack of equipment, antiquated technology, shortage or lack of material for practical work and, in some cases, the lack of workshops. To all this we must add that many production or service enterprises have not offered students possibilities for on-the-job training.

All of these factors, together with the lack of technical bibliography and trained teachers, have adversely affected the academic level of many graduates. Resolution No. 356 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers provides for the furnishing of these institutions

with the specialized materials they need and care and upkeep of such material by the corresponding agencies and local organs of People's Power. This has led to great improvements and we are pressing to see that it is fully implemented.

The victory of the Revolution laid the groundwork for the transformation of higher education. The 1962 university reform set guidelines of the highest importance for its development.

In the 1959-1960 academic year there were 28 university disciplines. Now there are 144 disciplines, in keeping with the needs of the economy, science and culture. Higher education students have been encouraged to participate in scientific and technical activity, research, and links between study and work, in accordance with the requirements of their professional training.

In 1959 there were three official universities. The national educational network now contains 39 institutions of higher learning, covering nearly all the provinces. Enrollment has increased from about 15 000 students to a present figure of nearly 200 000. Of this figure 51 percent are workers who are also studying. There are also more than 7000 Cuban students training in the socialist countries, some 6300 of them in the Soviet Union.

Now all children and young people who finish the 6th or 9th grade can be sure of going on to study at the different institutions that make up the national network. Nearly 16 000 children and young people from various countries, mainly Africans and Nicaraguans, are able to study in our country as an expression of Cuba's internationalist policy.

During the period 1976-80 the number of graduates from all institutions of the National Education System was as follows:

- 1 293 000 elementary school students, more than the total of such graduates in the first 16 years of the Revolution;
- 574 800 junior high school students, 7.2 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 105 100 senior high school students, 4.4 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 165 500 skilled workers and intermediate technicians, four times more than the previous five-year period;
- 67 400 elementary school teachers, 3.6 times more than in the previous five-year period;
- 755 000 adults achieving the 6th grade, 115 000 graduating from junior high schools and 45 000 from the worker-farmer university extension program;
- 73 500 junior high school teachers graduating from special part-time courses;
- 2473 physical education teachers;
- 62 562 graduates from institutions of higher education, including 23 800 teachers of intermediate education. This figure is 2.7 times more than the previous five-year period.

In the field of intermediate education the figures for the last five years are about equal to the total number of graduates from 1902 to 1975, not including the adults.

As can be seen, one of the biggest achievements of the last decade has been the flow of students through the National Education System. This has meant that during the 1976-80 period there has been a big change in the "educational pyramid" — the ratio between elementary, intermediate and higher education enrollment. In 1958, out of every 100 students, 88.7 were in elementary

school, 11 in intermediate education and 0.3 in higher education. Now the ratio is very different: 54 in elementary education, 40 in intermediate education and six in higher education. The pyramid is thus very similar to those of the developed countries.

The big increase in graduates from junior and senior high school made it possible to increase entry requirements from 6th to 9th grade for teacher training and schools training skilled workers and intermediate technicians, and from junior to senior high for higher pedagogical institutes. These measures will be very important in raising the academic standard of future professionals.

In order to help accomplish these aims, 1577 new educational institutions have been built in the last ten years at a cost of more than 1500 million pesos.

This whole process of educational development has been carried out amidst an intense class struggle characterized by direct confrontation with imperialism, its attacks, its economic blockade and its diversionary ideology.

The leading role taken by our glorious Communist Party in formulating and correctly implementing educational policy has facilitated these educational transformations and the work done by our people in education. The theses and resolutions adopted at the 1st and 2nd Party Congresses clearly stated the objectives, indications and guidelines which our schools are applying towards the communist upbringing of new generations.

The support of society as a whole for educational tasks, a factor of great importance, is reflected in the school itself; we see the influence of the Party, the UJC, the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science, the José Martí Pioneer Organization, the Federation of Students of Intermediate Education and the Federation of University Students.

The school councils and parents' committees are important means for linking the educational institutions and day-care centers with the community. The family is represented in them, along with members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, the Federation of Cuban Women, the National Association of Small Farmers and the unions. Their aim is to ensure that the schools and day-care centers fulfill their social responsibility.

Together with the extension of educational services there has been a substantial change in the role played by the school in the upbringing of children and young people. An important contribution towards this objective has been made by linking study and work. Steps towards this were first taken in 1962 in the mountains of the eastern part of the country and continued in Camagüey and other provinces until it became nationwide, with the implementation of the program known as the School Goes to the Countryside. Full realization of the idea of combining study and work was achieved with the schools in the countryside, conceived by Fidel and based on the application of this important pedagogical principle set forth by Marx and Martí.

Linking the school to society as a whole has been a constant concern of the Revolution. The students are directly influenced by the Revolution and whenever they have been called upon to carry out extraordinary tasks they have responded enthusiastically and conscientiously. A clear indication of how the children, adolescents and young people of Cuba think and act has been their incorporation into the difficult and complex tasks posed by the Revolution. Their participation in productive work

and internationalist tasks, their zealous mass participation in the March of the Fighting People, their integration into the Territorial Troop Militia in response to the threat of armed attack, are examples of the revolutionary feelings of our young people.

The intense work done in the educational field from the very start of the Revolution had its share of problems and shortcomings. However, the valuable pedagogical experiences which we were accumulating and the level of development reached laid the foundation for defining and facing up to the necessary changes.

The Congress on Education and Culture held in 1971 became a debate among Cuban educational personnel which shed light on their political and ideological awareness. It also posed the need for a profound study of the contents of education in order to resolve the incongruities in the curricula and programs, the lack of coordination, the fact that in some fields we were not keeping pace with the development of science and technology, the acute shortage of personnel and materials. Furthermore, the insufficient enrollment capacity in intermediate education, the problem of children who started school late or had to repeat grades. This led to a "bottleneck" in elementary school enrollment and underlined the urgent need to search for solutions to these problems.

Thus we had to revolutionize the very concepts of education. This led to the Plan for the Improvement of the Education System, whose objective was to make education conform to the society we are building, that is, provide the new generations with the appropriate political, intellectual, scientific, technical, physical, moral, aesthetic, polytechnical, work and patriotic-military training. We had to give the National Education System a scientific foundation in line with the methodological and organizational principles of socialist pedagogy.

The Plan's first stage was one of diagnosis and analysis, which revealed the lack of a coherent system of general education. There was a structure for dealing with the different educational levels but without a systematic concept. Elementary schools were supervised by a leadership which structured its activity vertically in relative interdependence with the junior high schools, and these, in turn, with the senior highs. We did not have the current concept of general polytechnical and labor education which covers elementary and intermediate levels and which now constitutes the core of the system.

Technical and professional education was also structured in a vertical manner with no links to general education, leading to incongruities in the contents of education.

Training of teachers was handled by various branches of the Ministry of Education and there were no links to the general education for which teachers were being prepared. A similar lack of coordination existed in other branches.

In order to solve these problems we had to improve the National Education System, focusing on integrity, interrelationships and links that determine its structure. It also had to ensure the harmony of objectives, content and methods along with continuity of education and the organization of teaching and educational work.

In general terms, the results of the initial stages of the Plan have been satisfactory. It has succeeded not only in introducing new curricula and textbooks and defining material needs, but has also come up with a new educational structure and a series of extracurricular activities

to confront this gigantic task. All this has contributed to increasing the students' educational level.

The 1st Congress of the Party approved and determined the objectives and scope of the Plan; it determined the social function of school, its guiding role; the need to strengthen educational work and to train and constantly improve the teacher's qualifications as a political and educational cadre in charge of introducing new plans, programs and textbooks.

We also worked out a plan for upgrading the teaching staff so that they would be acquainted with the educational programs and materials before they were applied. Various methods have been used to accomplish this, including seminars and classroom visits aimed at improving methodology.

In this complex task and the radical changes it implies, problems naturally arise as a result of the process of development and the objective and subjective conditions under which plans were elaborated and applied. Also involved is the struggle between the new and old.

The main problems and shortcomings in the implementation of the Plan have resulted from inadequate understanding of the new programs, incorrect use of educational methods and means, lack of materials, inadequate methodological training, and lack of rigor and a demanding attitude in applying evaluation norms.

We have taken the necessary measures to cope with all these problems, such as the recently concluded seminar for heads of departments and teachers of mathematics, physics and chemistry and guidelines for remedial work in Spanish, reading and math.

We have been aided in all this work by specialists from the USSR and the GDR, who have offered us their valuable experiences.

We must stress that this is a permanent process which will lead to new and more complex scientific and pedagogical tasks.

As a result of the institutional changes made from 1976 on, the new structure of leadership and administration in education on the municipal, provincial and national levels has helped consolidate plans for educational development all over the country and has led to substantial improvements. There has been notable progress in the field of inspection and methodological aid, as shown by the fact that from January 1977 to May 1981, the Ministry of Education alone carried out 978 inspection visits to provincial departments, 2576 to municipal departments and 23 420 to individual schools.

School organization is today accorded the priority it deserves as the basis for the work of the school and the decisive factor in the education of children and young people.

Efficient school organization means fulfillment of the schedule, daily and otherwise; fulfillment of norms for productive work; attendance and punctuality of leaders, teachers and professors, students and noneducational workers; taking full advantage of the workday; respecting social and individual property; observing standards of proper behavior and personal appearance; and maintaining proper relations between students and teachers within a framework of socialist morals.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION SERVES AS THE BASE FOR THE ENTIRE TEACHING ACTIVITY OF THE SCHOOL

There are institutions that have come a long way in this field and, as a whole, progress has been made. However, other centers continue to have problems and shortcomings, such as absences and lack of punctuality on the part of teachers and professors, which has an adverse effect on the students. This situation is particularly acute in rural areas.

In order to improve the quality of elementary schools we must establish both morning and afternoon sessions. Only 27 percent of all students are now attending two sessions a day and in some provinces, such as Las Tunas, Granma and Guantánamo, virtually none are. Given the gradual decline in elementary school enrollment, we will be able to gradually increase the number of students attending two sessions a day.

The basic organizational form of education is the classroom. It is here where the main objectives of the school programs and curricula are fulfilled. Results this year reflect progress over previous years, but are not 100 percent satisfactory since inspections have detected a number of deficiencies. Because of this we are strengthening methodological work and systematic control, because all classes must be good ones, increasing their level in accordance with our development.

An important element in the teaching and educational process is evaluation, which controls results and serves to guide its direction.

The evaluation system makes it possible to detect the educational problem in time so that teachers and students can adopt the necessary measures to prevent irreversible failures at the end of the school year. It is designed to anticipate the nonfulfillment of goals and any setbacks in learning, and it seeks to encourage the students and overcome their shortcomings.

The inspections made have shown that the evaluation system is not fully mastered in all cases and that its application does not always abide by the established norms. These difficulties are found at the various levels and subsystems. We found one example of this in the first two grades of elementary education, where some students were promoted without justification.

Upon completing 1st grade, all the students are supposed to move on to 2nd grade, along with their teachers. In 2nd grade, teachers should work with those who have shortcomings in order to bring them up to par with the rest of the class. No student should be promoted to 3rd grade unless he has mastered the objectives of the preceding grades. Promoting any student unable to read and write to 3rd or a higher grade constitutes a violation.

Investigations made showed that out of over 900 000 students in 3rd to 6th grades, a little over 28 000, or 2.9 percent, couldn't read or write. Today this figure has dropped by more than half, thanks to the steps taken to remedy such irregularities. Although the figure is not significant, to us one single student wrongly promoted merits special attention.

We are also working to remedy the poor preparation of senior high school graduates due, among other factors, to lack of correct study habits and academic discipline.

Promotion is the fundamental indicator of the efficiency of teaching and educational work. It should be the result of the proper organization of daily work, the sound application of the system of teaching principles, the systematic upgrading of the teaching staff, individual and collective study on the part of the students, an enthusiastic emulation program, rigorous educational work and close ties with all student, political and mass organizations.

Promotion should respond to systematic and serious work on the part of the teaching staff and it must necessarily become a struggle for quality. The goal is that all the students be promoted on the basis of mastering the required knowledge.

The goal of the school is that all the students get satisfactory results, as a consequence of good teaching and educational work. The teacher's dedicated and selfless efforts, the creation of a favorable environment for study and work, the careful attention to individual differences, the encouragement of every student and the maintaining of high standards are all fundamental aspects in achieving high rates of promotion. In no way can the application of evaluation norms imply concessions that conspire against academic rigor.

In our commander in chief's own words:

"Promotion is a very important question. No promotion can take place if the requirements have not been fulfilled. Now, when we speak about the quality of promotion, this does not by any means imply that the rate is unimportant. A promotion rate of 40, 50 or 60 percent is not good enough. Therefore, we must struggle for top promotion with top quality. That's our task, that's the slogan that sums it all up. I repeat, top with top."

Promotion rates obtained since 1975 are high and this is a big improvement over the results obtained during the 1960-1970 period. This is especially so if we consider the enrollment boom in intermediate education as of the 1975 school year and the requirement that students pass all subjects before going on to the next grade. Over the last five years the promotion rate has been stabilized, but we must take a more demanding attitude and pay greater attention to quality.

Likewise, prevention of dropouts is a concrete example of the results of the schools' work. In the 1959-69 period, retention rates were very low and although great progress was made in the period between 1970 and 1980, they are still not satisfactory. In the last few years of the preceding five-year period there was a slight drop in the intermediate level, affecting the enrollment rate in the 13-16 age group.

At the start of the 1980-81 school year, the rate for this age group was 79.8 percent, considering population estimates and official enrollment figures for each age group.

According to a study undertaken in February 1980 in cooperation with the State Committee for Statistics which covered 28 municipalities and 23 percent of the population in this age group, 92.5 percent of the young people were in school. However, we must await the results of the upcoming census to confirm this and determine the real magnitude of the problem.

Among the factors which cause dropouts are problems of a sociocultural nature, such as marriage at an early age, which affected some 11 000 students in the 1979-80 school year. Schools will win the battle against dropouts with efficient work and the backing of the school councils, political and mass organizations, the family and

society as a whole, and with the elimination of the socioeconomic and cultural factors which have an adverse effect on certain segments of the population.

Educational work can be characterized as a continuous process of shaping the personality of the child or young person. This is a complex task because it is not limited to the school alone. The home life, the example of the parents and teachers, the influence of fellow students, friends, radio and TV programs, cinema; activities of the student organizations and the community in general must form a single coherent, multifaceted system. That is why integral education work directed towards a common objective is so important; all pertinent social factors must come into play.

The school undoubtedly plays the key role in this series of factors. In every educational institution, educational work is carried out in the classroom, in the laboratory, in the workshops, in the cafeteria, the lounges, dormitories, as well as in political, ideological, productive, sports, recreational and cultural activities; that is, educational work is present in every aspect of student life.

Educational work also involves school organization: teaching itself; the work of political and ideological training; correct combination of study and work; vocational training and professional guidance; art education; physical education and sports; participation of the school in political and patriotic-military education, the teaching of Marxism-Leninism; norms of acceptable social conduct, an understanding of ethical values and establishment of a favorable climate for study and work.

Our goal is that educational work be adequately reflected in the upbringing of children and young people. We have made progress in this field but much still remains to be done in order to achieve satisfactory results in all educational institutions. In some cases this work is not accorded the importance it merits; each and every one of the factors is not always dealt with in an integral fashion and at times the work is done in an irregular, routine and superficial manner.

At boarding schools, where the student spends the major part of his time, educational work becomes even more important.

Notable progress has been made in these institutions during the course of this school year, but there are still schools which require great attention and help so that they can use school organization, control and high standards as tools for increasing the efficiency of their work.

It is clear that certain schools are deficient when it comes to instilling correct habits and standards of social conduct and developing a critical attitude towards wrongdoing. There have been ostensible changes and we are constantly strengthening pedagogical and political work and taking a demanding attitude in the schools and in educational leadership positions to eliminate negative conduct, some of which is rooted in the problems which confront society and which schools must help solve. However there are still losses and destruction of social property, lack of discipline and punctuality, late return after leaves, inadequate personal relations among students and between students and teachers, lack of correct habits of social conduct and inadequate hygiene.

Schools must undoubtedly give priority to the work of improving the students' social conduct and manners. We seek conscientious discipline, that is, that good conduct and behavior reflect the principles and standards of communist morality.

Discipline is not one more aspect of educational work but rather the result of its efficiency. Thus we stress improved educational work; every teacher and professor in every school must fulfill his or her educational role

and the work of teachers' collectives must be systematic, uniform and coherent.

Political and ideological training of the students is closely linked to the study and knowledge of Marxism-Leninism, now being systematically taught in the different branches of our educational system. We still don't have enough professors nor enough of the basic texts.

Political and ideological education goes hand in hand with patriotic and military education. Courses on technical-military training, which are being tried out in some schools, will be taught in all senior high schools in the coming school year.

Physical education and school sports, along with art and cultural education, are key factors in the shaping of a communist personality.

Achievements registered in the field of physical education and school sports are well known. However, numerous problems and shortcomings exist: students who skip classes, misuse of class time, inadequate participation in sports activity and, in some schools, the inadequate use, care and upkeep of sports facilities. Another problem is the lack of sports materials, chiefly in elementary schools and special education. The Ministry of Education and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation are presently involved in projects to promote mass participation and improve the quality of the work being done in this field.

Progress has been made in art and cultural education in the different branches of the educational system, especially in elementary schools. With a view to overcoming existing problems and shortcomings with regard to professors, curricula and materials, the Ministries of Education and Culture have taken a series of measures that are reflected in a work plan of the next five years. Such measures reinforce the work that must be done by the school to improve the level of cultural activity.

The combination of study and work, a basic principle of Cuban education which has a decisive influence on our children and young people, has been favorably commented on at the two Party Congresses. The need to improve upon its application in the different branches of education has been stressed.

In elementary schools we now have nearly 600 vegetable gardens and more than 800 productive plots, in which more than 330 000 students are involved. The School Goes to the Countryside program still makes a notable contribution to the economy of the country, with large numbers of students at the intermediate level working on various crops. Problems and shortcomings which still exist in terms of organization and supply are being worked on by the various agencies involved, which are taking a more demanding attitude and striving to exert effective control.

The junior and senior high schools in the countryside supply the principal work force for certain citrus, tobacco, coffee and other harvests and the students' work has been satisfactory.

Absences and lack of punctuality, inadequate sanitary conditions and diet, nonfulfillment of norms, failure to clearly define tasks and shortages of materials are among the problems we are trying to solve.

The scientific-technical clubs, an effective means for vocational training, are being increasingly strengthened and now number more than 31 000. About 480 000 elementary and junior high school students participate in them, that is, a third of the students in those grades. As provided for in Decree 63 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, work is being done to increase participation in these clubs and raise their quality.

Inspections and reports by the Ministries of Education and Public Health indicate that hygienic and sanitary standards at schools have improved. Among the difficulties which still remain we should mention the serious problems related to the physical condition of some urban and rural centers, the lack of ventilation, illumination and water, inadequate preparation of food, malfunctioning and leaks in new schools caused mainly by faulty construction work and inadequate care and upkeep.

Together with the Ministry of Public Health we are working on a national student protection program for the 1981-83 period, which will be put into effect in the coming school year in coordination with the corresponding department of People's Power.

In some provinces there is a lack of school furniture. Efforts have been made to solve this problem by the start of the next school year.

In the last few years we have also had problems related to delays in the completion of schools and the search for and training of educational and service personnel — all of which affect the students.

The installation and use of laboratories and workshops, and the distribution, redistribution and use of textbooks are other fields with problems which we are working to solve.

We must mention the fact that the Ministry of Culture has made a great effort to have textbooks for the coming school year ready before June 30 so we can send them to the schools before classes start. This will solve a problem we have faced for years.

We should likewise mention the extraordinary work done by collectives of textbook authors. As a result of the increased need posed by the Improvement Plan, during the last few years more than 1000 new titles have been published, making a decisive influence in the development of current educational programs. The groups writing these materials are made up of representatives from the Academy of Sciences, institutions of higher learning, production and service institutions, teachers, professors and methodologists, from the municipal, provincial and national levels, under the supervision of the Central Institute of Pedagogical Sciences.

One thing which has helped improve the quality of education is the stability of cadres, chiefly school principals. In order to cope with the sharp boom in intermediate education during the last ten years, we had to select more than 18 000 new leadership cadres. This gave rise to a lack of stability and technical cadres in the municipalities. In many cases methodologists and inspectors were sent to work at new institutions or those with insufficient leadership cadres, and thus had to neglect their previous responsibilities.

The Ministry of Education and the local organs of People's Power have worked to organize and develop the cadre pool and reserves, achieve better control, and undertake systematic evaluations and continuously upgrade personnel to achieve greater efficiency and better placement and promotion of teachers and administrative personnel.

The new system of promotions and graduated pay scale has constituted a step forward for educational workers in the recognition of their merits, while contributing to the stability of teachers, professors and other pedagogical cadres.

Our quantitative and qualitative achievements allow for constant and systematic increases in the quality of education and improvements in the work done by the school; indeed, they require us to struggle for them. Thus, we are continuing to develop the Improvement Plan in order to better the material and technical foundation

of education and intensify scientific and pedagogical activity.

Over the 1981-85 period enrollment in elementary school will continue to decline. Careful study will be given to the future development of the elementary school network, so that while not building schools with low enrollment we will be seeing to it that no child is without a school, no matter how remote the area where he or she lives. Surplus school capacity resulting from declining enrollment will be used to have more children attending two sessions daily, thus increasing the quality of teaching and education in general.

In order to further the overall training of students there will be an increase in physical education, labor studies and art education.

Junior high school enrollment has reached its peak and is expected to remain at its present level, or perhaps decline slightly, in the coming years. With the present installations, and those to be built in this five-year period, we will be able to keep pace and cope with future needs. The teachers we already have, plus those currently in training, will bring departments up to full strength.

We will continue transferring students, chiefly from the eastern provinces to other provinces, to see to it that they continue studying when they finish 6th grade and in order to involve the greatest possible number of students in the study-work program.

In the 1981-85 period some 848 000 students will finish 9th grade. Of these, 412 000 will continue studying in polytechnic schools or institutes and 300 000 in senior high schools; 136 000 will train for careers in education, public health and technical and professional fields. This enrollment structure fits in with existing capacity and the needs of the socioeconomic development of the country.

Senior high school education will continue developing. At least 11 senior high schools in the countryside will be finished in the 1981-85 period, and some junior highs will become senior highs, so that the majority of the students at this level will be participating in the study-work program.

The prevailing promotion and retention rates indicate that 226 000 young people will graduate from 12th grade. Some of these will go on to institutions of higher learning and some of those who don't will study to become intermediate technicians in schools for technical and professional training and in schools of other state agencies.

There are 230 000 students at present in technical and professional education and in the 1981-85 period 44 new polytechnic schools will be built with a capacity for 28 600 students. The number of graduates will come to 375 000 in this five-year period basically as a result of students who enroll with a 9th-grade education. This means the number of graduates will be 2.1 times greater than in the 1976-80 period. In order to improve the training of skilled workers and intermediate-level technicians we are working to better the material and technical foundation of the schools, finish construction work and install workshops and laboratories. These centers must be used efficiently and should be linked to industry.

The continuation of the studies started by the Central Planning Board and aimed at giving us detailed information about the need for skilled labor in the national economy is very important. Breakdowns both by region and by stage are necessary. Such information will make it possible for us to plan enrollment by careers and provinces appropriately, and make the necessary changes in school capacity.

There is a clear need to improve the training of elementary schoolteachers who received their training in systems existing prior to the present plan and need to be brought up to par with those now graduating from teacher training schools. There are more than 1000 teachers in two-year courses set up to cope with this problem, and in the future these studies will be an indispensable qualification. Teachers will also be able to obtain a university degree in elementary education. In the coming years teachers in intermediate education will be required to have a full university education.

In the field of adult education, following on the results obtained in the Battle for the 6th Grade, we will continue working along with the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions to ensure that most of those who have not already done so reach the 9th grade. Workers will have the opportunity of completing and improving their technical training in night courses and other special programs of technical and professional education.

It won't be easy to surpass many of the rates and qualitative levels reached in the last few years in terms of enrollment and number of graduates. However, in terms of qualitative improvement we have unlimited possibilities ahead of us.

Now more than ever before, we must take a more demanding attitude and be more efficient in our work. The struggle for quality is the main task of the Ministry of Education in a process that will always require the total mobilization of all forces, because every stage of development will pose greater requirements than the previous one.

Obviously, quality means increasing the scientific, pedagogical and political-ideological training of teaching staff and, in general, educational workers. That is, better work by all those in any way involved with the teaching and educational process. The focus of our work will be the drive for greater efficiency in all aspects of the system, both external and internal.

Efficiency in the internal aspects of the National Education System means cutting down on dropouts in all branches of education; seeing to it that the enrollment rate of young people over the age of 12 who are in school increases; stability and satisfactory flow of enrollment throughout the system; fulfillment of all norms which deal with optimum organization of education and teaching; permanent upgrading of leadership cadres; strengthening support work for the school done by the family, the community, agencies, social institutions and especially political and mass organizations, all of which are part of the school councils. There must be unwavering demands for the fulfillment of all educational objectives and the responsibilities which correspond to each and every person in this great task.

External efficiency has to do with turning out students who can continue their studies and become part of the production or service process with good skills and a full awareness of their responsibilities as workers and members of society; students with sound scientific training and ideological principles. That is, we must educate people whose knowledge, ability and attitude go hand in hand; people willing and able to serve their country wherever necessary, in line with their duty to it and the principles of proletarian internationalism.

The quality of education means better organization and teaching work, better educational work, more discipline, study and training.

Fidel has summed all this up as follows:

"In the coming years our efforts must focus on quality in all fields. Quality in the content of education and

teaching, quality in organization, quality in shaping personality and the awareness of students, quality in discipline and the fulfillment of duty for educational cadres, leaders, department chiefs, professors and all workers in education!"

Comrade deputies, we have presented a detailed report on the development of education, the achievements obtained, problems, shortcomings and the immediate outlook, and we also mentioned some of the measures which were taken to cope with the shortcomings and solve the problems.

Our Revolution allots huge sums of money to the development of education. There may be some material problems, which we will gradually solve, but the matters which we must solve right away and on which we are focusing our attention are subjective matters that depend on us and hamper the development of education. That is something we can solve and are duty bound to do so.

We realize that there is no room for concessions or tolerance in education. We strive to greatly increase the level and quality of education and teaching in all fields. The drive for a demanding attitude and efficiency is the core of our work.

In order to accomplish all this, we count on the wise leadership of the Party, the resolute efforts of the organs of People's Power, the firm and enthusiastic backing of

the Trade Union of Workers in Education and Science and the participation of youth and mass organizations.

Our teachers and students are aware of the fundamental tasks they face: production and defense. In education, production means greater quality, discipline and efficiency in work at school; defense means an alert and intransigent stand in the face of the threats, provocations and diversionary maneuvers of the enemy. It also means taking up arms if necessary.

In our advance we are inspired by our people's highest values; their traditions of struggle, unyielding stand in the face of the enemy; their fighting spirit, patriotism, dedication, internationalist spirit and sacrifice. These values are present in the teachers and they are based on the will to work tirelessly with Martí's concept that the best way to say is to do.

We are convinced that "education is the most powerful weapon available to mankind in order to create an ethic and a conscience, to create a sense of duty, organization and discipline, a sense of responsibility."

In all this noble effort, Fidel's teachings guide and inspire our revolutionary pedagogical development in its drive to obtain the supreme objective: the communist upbringing of the new generations.

CSO: 3020/130

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ ADDRESSES CMEA SESSION

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 12 Jul 81 p 8

[Text]

Official version of the speech by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice-president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers, to the 35th session of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA), on July 2, 1981, in Sofia, Bulgaria

Esteemed Comrade President;

Esteemed Heads of Delegation of Member and Invited Countries;

Dear Friends:

THE CUBAN delegation is grateful to the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Government and people of Bulgaria for the friendly welcome we have been given in beautiful Sofia in bloom, the capital and the political center of your fraternal country.

On the express instructions of Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of our country, I want to transmit to the Bulgarian Communists and the people as a whole, and to their dear leader, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, our satisfaction over the success of the 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the victorious advances of Bulgarian society and the economy which were reflected at the Congress.

We would also like to greet all the heads of governments and their representatives gathered here as members of the Council and its delegations. We are pleased to be sharing in the work with guest delegations from countries of Africa and Asia who like us are striving to overcome underdevelopment.

We congratulate you, Comrade Filipov, over the new duties in government leadership which you have been assigned and we wish you great success in this new and important responsibility.

As we meet in this 35th session, we must not only review the results of the work of the Council and its agencies during the period between the 34th and 35th sessions, but also of the work done since 1971 when, with the participation of the Parties and governments then represented in CMEA, the Comprehensive Program was agreed upon.

On reviewing the Executive Committee's report on this decade and comparing our results with those of the world economy as a whole, the superiority of socialism and the certainty of its future victory are made even clearer. The growth of member states during the decade has, of course, not been uniform. Development rates are still unequal and some countries, Cuba among them, are still far from reaching the levels of development and culture attained by the most advanced members of our socialist community. Nor is development linear and continuous in the member states nor in the community as such. Part of the reason for this is that trade between the countries building socialism and the major developed capitalist powers means that the socialist countries have not been able to completely escape the negative consequences of the ups and downs of the capitalist economic world and the inflation which is an outgrowth of that.

THE SOCIALIST ECONOMIES ARE ADVANCING STEADILY AND DEPENDABLY

However, what is notable in the report presented on the results of a decade of implementation of the Comprehensive Program, is that, in spite of all the problems of the moment

and the shortcomings, the socialist economies are advancing steadily and dependably, both in the field of material production as well as in scientific and technical development and increased well-being for the people, which is in essence the main purpose of socialism and communism.

Meanwhile, in the same decade, capitalism has experienced one of the most uncertain periods in its sinister history. The uncertainty continues and will continue because the problems which affect the capitalist economies and capitalism as such can't be solved for good, and it is increasingly difficult to come up with palliatives and temporary solutions.

Over the last ten years there were two occasions when the permanent crisis facing the capitalist system grew so serious as to remind everyone of the financial bankruptcy of 1929 and the ensuing period of the great depression, which lasted several years.

The contradictions between imperialism and the developing countries also became more acute. The underdeveloped countries' desire to have a New International Economic Order is becoming increasingly hard to bring about within the framework of the global negotiations and the misnamed North-South dialogue. Protectionism, the transnationals' offensive and high interest rates are the arrogant response of the big capitalist countries.

The developing countries' over 500 000 million dollars in debts pose a threat to the creditors, the private capitalist banks, and call into question the existence of continued stability on the world financial scene. Sharp contradictions and economic chaos are undoubtedly the key features of the capitalist world.

An analysis of the Comprehensive Program yields totally different results. There are problems which still haven't been solved and some things have moved ahead slowly but the balance sheet presented by the Executive Committee in the report (for which we thank Comrade Lukanov) confirms the strengthening of the socialist community and shows irrefutably that there is a firm scientific policy, agreed upon by all of us, which determines through the Comprehensive Program the specific long-term cooperation programs and joint programs for the realization of common objectives. This leads to solid evolution in the course of which work methods are improved, problems are solved and shortcomings are overcome.

It wouldn't be right for Marxists to close their eyes to certain evident realities. The flunkies of the capitalist society have made a big uproar about the problems which also developed in the socialist community. But we know — and they know too — that these painful and dramatic situations are not the result of less effectiveness of the socialist system in economic development and the organization of society, but rather the result

of mistakes and shortcomings which, far from representing socialist ideas and methods, stem from ignoring or forgetting such ideas and methods.

The progress made in carrying out the Comprehensive Program and the specific programs mentioned in the report is pointed in the right direction.

We share the view expressed in the report regarding the growing role of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation and the International Investment Bank in contributing to the development of our economies. For our part, we are grateful for the cooperation we have received from those two banks of the socialist community and from the central banks of the member states in carrying out Cuba's economic cooperation programs and in helping us resist the financial siege laid on us by U.S. imperialism, which has been tightened due to the aggressive stand of the Reagan administration.

CUBA, VIETNAM AND MONGOLIA: THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIALISM UNDER PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT CONDITIONS

We want to stress the importance of the method of holding regular talks on the problems of our economies. As far as Cuba is concerned, we have taken a further step in this direction by establishing long-term links between Cuba's development efforts and our permanent ties with the USSR and the other CMEA member states.

Cuba, esteemed Comrade President and comrade heads and members of delegations, belongs to that group of countries with less development which the report focused on and to which it dedicated a specific chapter. It recognized that Vietnam, Mongolia and Cuba undertake the construction of socialism under especially difficult conditions.

The fact that we are far away from the European socialist countries and close by to U.S. imperialism makes our situation even more serious. It's not just the question of economic blockade — both commercial and financial — and of political isolation which the United States wants to impose on us, to which end it puts pressure on its allies in Europe and Asia and its servants in Latin America; in addition, as everyone knows, we are subjected to the direct and brutally expressed threat of a military blockade, aggravated by insinuations of a direct attack on our country.

Nevertheless, the efforts of our working class and people as a whole, led by the Communist Party of Cuba and its leader, Fidel Castro, coupled with widespread international solidarity and the constant and decisive cooperation we receive from the Soviet Union and other sister socialist nations, have made possible the steady growth of the Cuban economy.

In his Report to the 2nd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, which was held at the end of the decade in question, Comrade Fidel Castro said that the Gross National Product increased by an average of four percent a year in the 1976-80 period at regular prices and, as such, was less than anticipated. This reduced growth rate shows, as far as Cuba is concerned, its partial economic dependence on the capitalist market and the impact the world price of sugar has on it.

But this figure does not fully reflect the growth process of the Cuban economy. In the 1976-80 period, investments came to 13 200 million pesos, 75 percent more than in the 1971-75 period. Of this sum, 35 percent was invested in industry and 19 percent in agriculture. Another healthy sign is that we have increased the participation of CMEA member states in Cuba's trade.

There are other indicators of the serious effort being made by the Cuban working people.

The electrical industry grew by just over nine percent a year in the last five years. Productivity of labor increased at a rate of 3.4 percent a year in the same period, an indication of greater efficiency. There was of course a steady increase in the number of people employed, but at the end of the period, full employment proved difficult due to the fact that the children of the baby boom that occurred 20 years ago as a result of the victory of the Revolution reached working age. This initial population increase dropped off to adequate levels as a result of the economic and social development of our country.

The Efforts To Promote Agricultural Mechanization Which Started 20 Years Ago Are Now Bearing Fruit

The efforts to promote agricultural mechanization which started 20 years ago are now bearing fruit. This is due to the participation of thousands of experts and intermediate technicians in agricultural work as a result of the successful educational programs of the Cuban Revolution. Results in the output of root and other vege-

tables and citrus fruit are evident. Dairy production in Havana province, with some 100 000 dairy cows, has made possible yields of more than 1.2 million liters of milk daily and 12.3 liters per cow this spring.

If we review the Cuban economic picture over the last decade, the results are even more than ten percent a year. The infrastructure was given a boost during the decade. Construction of schools, hospitals and roads increased notably, the merchant marine reached a deadweight of more than 800 000 tons. We have started to systematize industrial development and there was notable progress in the machine and chemical industries. The productivity of labor has increased and the ability of our economy to overcome problems has been demonstrated. The sugarcane and tobacco blights have been quickly eradicated. This year's sugar harvest, although still of limited volume because of the cane smut blight, was the most efficient in Cuban history, and the tobacco harvest was the largest ever.

THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF SOCIALIST COOPERATION

Cuba would like to reemphasize in this 35th session the important role that socialist cooperation, especially from the Soviet Union, plays in our economic development. The opening of the sugarcane harvesters factory, the systematic increase in our electric energy output, the development of our machine industry, the enormous help provided in constructing the nickel plant in Punta Gorda and the first stages of a nuclear energy plant are just some of the areas where we have benefited from Soviet cooperation. This cooperation extends to all spheres of activity, including technological assistance and scientific and technical cooperation.

The German Democratic Republic has recently been involved in several important cooperation projects in Cuba. These include the Karl Marx cement factory, with a production capacity of 1.5 million tons annually, double what the country produced in 1959. The 26 de Julio agricultural tool factory, built with Bulgarian cooperation, will open in the province of Holguin on the date commemorating the assault on the Moncada garrison. Hungary has worked with us in the transportation industry, while Czechoslovakia has played an important part in developing our electrical and machine industries.

In addition to these bilateral cooperation projects, there will be multilateral cooperation in the construction of the Las Camariocas nickel processing plant, with the combined efforts of most of the CMEA member countries. Agreements on the participation of each country will be finished in the next few months, the work schedule will be approved in September and the ground of the plant has already been broken.

Furthermore, during this five-year period, Cuba will begin to see the results of its participation in the joint production and development programs in electronic computation and its specialization in equipment for the sugar industry.

We should recall that at this session of the Council two programs specifically related to our country are scheduled to be finalized. The first relates to the sugar industry and will help Cuba fulfill its pledge to develop its capacity as the principal sugar supplier for the CMEA, with the cooperation of the member states. The second relates to citrus fruit and will allow for a high level of citrus consumption in the socialist countries. In 1980 Cuba exported about 185 000 tons of citrus fruit to the socialist community, and it plans to increase that amount steadily from now on.

This brief explanation of our country's process of economic development over the last decade confirms the fact that today the only valid means of overcoming underdevelopment and satisfying the hopes of the people is socialism. That is why we attach such importance to the growing cooperation of the CMEA with developing countries.

THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY TENSE AND DANGEROUS

Esteemed Comrade President, the 35th session of the CMEA takes place at a time when the international situation is becoming increasingly tense and dangerous. Once again the language of the cold war is being used and steps are being taken to stimulate the arms race and nuclear rivalry. Attempts are being made to justify acts of blatant military aggression such as Israel's attack on Iraq. The internal stability of socialist countries is being threatened.

Under these circumstances, the high ideals embodied in socialism become even more compelling. Without making any concessions or retreating in any way, socialism has delineated a peace program in response to the threat of war, through the wise and mature words of Comrade Brezhnev at the 26th Congress of the CPSU and at the Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. We subscribe to this program. Cuba, which is prepared to defend every inch of its soil and to keep its obligations to help defend the Third World countries and the socialist countries against any insane military adventure, thus confirms the clear statement of the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Fidel Castro, at the Party's 2nd Congress. Cuba wants peace and will work with all those concerned about peace.

Thank you very much.

CSO: 3020/130

MILITARY ENTERPRISES HOLD REVIEW MEETING

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Jun 81 pp 56, 57

[Article by Ruben Fonseca]

[Text] The third meeting of chief mechanics from Military Industrial Enterprises [EMI] took place at the Grito de Baire EMI since, in 1981, that enterprise registered the highest achievements in the spheres of production, planning and others.

Attended by representatives of all the EMI's, the meeting was pleasant and thorough and so were the six reports covering every basic aspect of the tasks performed by chief mechanics from the viewpoint of the resolutions dealing with work safety and hygiene and with standardization.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and approve proposals to improve the regulations applicable to that specialized field: the Service Regulation for Chief Mechanics and the system of preventive planned maintenance of powered machines.

During the meeting, which lasted 3 days, chief mechanics and Soviet experts who attended the meeting shared with the others their experiences in their respective fields of expertise explaining how they do their work.

To help publicize their experience regarding the maintenance of machine-tool equipment, there was an exhibition next to the hall where the meeting took place. It had more than 300 exhibits and innovations created by the various military industrial enterprises.

There is no question that the exhibits are proof of the progress made by experts and innovators in their various enterprises.

Before summing up the meeting, the engineer Lt. Col. Jose R Sauquet gave incentive awards: the first prize went to chief mechanic Luis Amalio Alvarez Morales of the "Grito de Baire" enterprise; the second prize to the engineer Capt. Eulalio Estiu Alonso of the Gran Revolucion Socialista de Octubre enterprise and the third prize to Lt. Cmdr. Jose Barreras of the Granma Revolutionary Navy enterprise.

The third conference of chief mechanics was unquestionably more rewarding than previous ones from the viewpoint of the caliber of the speeches delivered and position papers discussed and of the exchange of experiences.

8796

CSO: 3010/1552

PREMIUM PAY FOR SERVICE WORKERS DISCUSSED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Jun 81 p 2

[Article by Adolfo Gomez]

[Text] We devote this column to answering a reader's letter sent to us by Daysi Roque who works for the Articolor photographic laboratory in Havana City.

Daysi writes that she is an office clerk, grade A, working in that unit of the Diez de Octubre Municipal Services Enterprises where workers are entitled to receive a premium payment for overfulfilling the targets of the economic technical plan for the first 6 months of this year.

This benefit was granted to the production workers as well as to the production manager, the quality control manager and the administrator. Daysi wonders why office workers are not entitled to that premium payment.

After consulting the State Committee for Labor and Social Services [CETSS], that agency explained that Decree No 50, issued by the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers on 19 October 1979, stipulates that premium payments will apply to manual and service workers as well as to administrators, technicians and managers. The last three categories will receive the premium if they are directly connected with the production process or with the service activity.

In the First Annex of Directive No 379, issued by the CETSS, the section dealing with photography dispatching does not mention any administrative worker as being entitled to premium payments.

This is because during the discussions and reviews carried out by that State Committee with the Ministry of Domestic Trade and with the National Union of Commercial and Restaurant Workers, it was decided that office workers employed in that type of establishments are not directly connected with the production process and, therefore, will be excluded from the benefits mentioned in the said directive.

In conclusion, it is evident that administrative workers employed in these photographic plants are not entitled to receive premium payments since they are not directly connected with the production process.

However, the CETSS considers that it has the duty to make the required adjustments in the above-mentioned case if, in this particular instance, an administrative worker was directly connected with the production side of the delivery of services.

If this applies to Daysi's case (or to other workers in the dispatching section under similar circumstances), they should get in touch with the Department of Commerce and Gastronomy of the State Committee for Labor where they will be given specific instructions to determine whether changes to the provisions are required.

This column would be very pleased if those who take steps to clarify and rectify this matter would let us know the outcome of their action to inform our readers.

8796

CSO: 3010/1552

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WORK PROGRAM EXPLAINED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Jun 81 p 2

[Text] Graduates from higher education establishments and from intermediate higher level technical and vocational schools who are assigned to centralized positions should sign a work contract with the agencies to which they have been assigned to do their Social Service.

By that contract, which cannot extend beyond 3 years, the graduate commits himself to do a specific job in the post to which he has been assigned and to observe the rules of work discipline, the collective contract and the by-laws of that agency.

On the other hand, the agency must assign to the graduate a job or post in his field of specialization or study, must pay him wages and must comply with the working conditions and other working rights stipulated by the law as well as those contained in collective contracts and by-laws.

The type of contract used will be the standard contract which indicates, among other things, the job or position, a detailed job description, the workplace and work schedule, the duration of the working day, the amount to be paid and the method of payment.

Contract conditions will become void if they entail giving up or impairing the rights of the workers recognized by the law, if they violate those contained in collective work contracts or in the by-laws, or if they grant rights which are not specified in the regulations in force.

It is understood that the contract will be changed if the agency's requirements call for the worker to be transferred--his transfer can also take place in an emergency situation--when the type of work involved is discontinued or for reasons of indiscipline or promotion.

Those graduates who are not selected for centralized positions in accordance with the Annual Appointment Plan prepared by the Central Planning Board, can be directly engaged by entities without being subjected to the regulations applicable to the Social Service.

FAR POLITICAL SECTIONS HOLD NATIONAL MEETING

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Jun 81 pp 56, 57

[Text] The Troops Construction and Housing Political Section organized a seminar for the party's organization front which was attended by organizers, documentators, secretaries of adjunct commissions and professional secretaries of party committees.

The main report presented at the meeting introduced, in a spirit of criticism and self-criticism, various aspects of the party's internal life such as: preparation and running of meetings; report on the planning of the party political work; recruiting and growth activities, and others. It showed that 81 percent of the new members recruited in that military branch were workers who are directly involved in the production of material goods. The situation regarding criticism and self-criticism was also assessed as were other aspects of the party's work.

During the discussions on the report, there were many statements aimed at solving the problems raised and other problems which come up in party work. These problems were seriously analyzed by the participants.

Another important aspect of the seminar were the position papers introduced by some party leaders and by secretaries of adjunct commissions.

There was also a visit to a brigade of the Military Construction Enterprise No 5 where the group secretary and the activists spoke about what that enterprise was doing to support production particularly about their efforts to promote quality work.

The chief of the construction department summed up the meeting and he mentioned how important it was to fulfill the 1981 Economic Technical Plan and to complete the projects on schedule and with the required quality work.

He also said that it was necessary to enlist the cooperation of the masses to solve problems arising in the enterprises and to step up party work in the oversight and strict management of the enterprises and units.

8796

CSO: 3010/1552

MININT 20TH ANNIVERSARY HELD, FIDEL CASTRO PRESIDES

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Jun 81 pp 10-13

[Text] "Today there can be nothing more important for us than knowing that 20 years ago, actually a little longer, we undertook this task in conjunction with the people and now we have arrived here with the people. Our common bonds, far from becoming weaker, have grown extraordinarily stronger. We have not become separated from the masses and never will. Our achievements are their own achievements. Our strength is theirs, our authority is their authority, our thinking is their thinking. We are now and always will be what Camilo said about our Rebel Army: the people in uniform."

These are the words of Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes Menendez, a member of the Politburo, during his closing speech at the principal ceremony marking the 20th anniversary of the founding of MININT [Ministry of the Interior], held 6 June in the Karl Marx Theater.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Council of State and of the government, presided over the ceremony along with other members of the Politburo, Secretariat, and Central Committee, members of the leadership group of MININT, heads of invited delegations from other nations attending the 20th anniversary celebrations, specialists from allied nations working in Cuba and family members of MININT combatants who died fighting the enemy.

At the ceremony a speech was made by Lt Gen Ywing Churbanov, of the Soviet Union, who stated he considered it a mission of honor given him by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of that nation, to deliver the warmest congratulations to the MININT combatants on their 20th anniversary and to all the Cuban people, wishing them yet more victories in the construction of the new society.

Special remarks were made also by the representative of the fraternal people of Nicaragua, Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, interior minister of that nation, who in the leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the ministry he heads, delivered an affectionate greeting to the MININT combatants and to all our people.

Later he emphasized that it was difficult to state in words the affection, respect and gratitude felt by the people of Nicaragua and their revolution toward the Cuban people and their revolution.

In another part of his speech Borge stated, "The imperialists took away our wheat, but they will never be able to take away our dignity and pride. They can make ashes out of us and wipe us off the map but they can never make ashes of our dignity."

At the beginning of the ceremony, after the playing of the national anthem, a group of Pioneers presented tableaux of certain aspects of the labor of MININT combatants. After the scenic presentation, groups of Pioneers brought flowers to Fidel and the others in the presiding group. Then a Pioneer read a communique, and lastly tribute was paid to Fidel and Ramiro by representatives of the Pioneers.

When he continued with the ceremony Ramiro Valdes noted that all the political and mass organizations, all the agencies and the whole people, beginning with a fraternal greeting from the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and especially its minister, had gladly joined in the celebration of these 20 years of struggle, efforts and achievements by MININT.

He noted the extraordinary value of this demonstration of confidence, this total unity, this support and affection from our people, and added that there is nothing which could stimulate them more or more properly reward the extra efforts and sacrifices of the MININT workers, nothing which could make them feel more dedicated and willing to give their all in order to improve even more the quality and efficiency of the work of this organization.

After reviewing the origin and development of MININT and the work its members have accomplished during these 20 years in defending the revolution and the victories of our people over internal and external enemies, Ramiro Valdes expressed thanks to the party, to the political and mass organizations and the state agencies for the valuable help given to the interior ministry, and gave thanks especially to the persons who have been its leaders and guides, the most zealous and vigilant protectors of the authority, prestige and fighting strength of this ministry, that is, Fidel and Raul.

In another part of his speech he called to mind the glorious combatants who have given their lives over these 20 years and marked with their blood the road to this 20th anniversary. Of them he said, "Today they are our watchful conscience, our inviolable commitment, our flag of combat."

Ramiro Valdes concluded by saying, "On a day like this 20th anniversary we can say with no fear of being mistaken that there will be no road too difficult for us and no task too complicated for us to complete, that we shall defend until death if necessary the welfare and tranquility of our heroic people. We will never fail to follow the guidance of the one who has been our infallible leader over all these long years; we will always carry in our hearts his firmness, his socialism and his unquenchable faith in victory; we are and always will be untiring sentinels of the nation and the revolution."

Conferring of Service Award on the Minister of the Interior

Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes conferred the Distinguished Service Award on Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at a solemn ceremony on the evening of 6 June at the Cubanacan ceremonial hall.

This high MININT honor was conferred also on Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party Central Committee and FAR minister, and also on Comrades Juan Almeida, Ramiro Valdes, Guillermo Garcia and Sergio del Valle, members of the Politburo. Another recipient of the award was Gen Abelardo Colome, alternate member of the Politburo.

Fidel and Almeida in their turn conferred the Distinguished Service Award on the Minister of the Interior and on a group of generals, chiefs and officials of that agency, beginning with Gen Juan Abrantes, first vice minister of MININT.

This high honor was conferred also on various members of the Central Committee, heads of state agencies and other comrades in recognition of their services to the interior ministry.

The various proclamations of the interior minister conferring the awards were read to the assembly by Col Haydee Diaz.

After the award ceremony, Fidel and the other members of the Politburo chatted fraternally with the persons who had received the decorations and with the other guests. It was an unforgettable evening.

11,989

C80: 3010/1550

BEST EJT BRIGADE IN CURRENT CANE HARVEST HONORED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 21 Jun 81 p 56

[Article by Miguel Benitez: "1980-81: EJT's Greatest Sugar Harvest"]

[Text] The role performed by the Youth Labor Army (EJT) in the sugar harvest which was just completed clearly deserves review here in terms of some of the totals attained, which prove again that this organization is Cuba's greatest resource for manual cutting of cane.

The accomplishments are especially praiseworthy in view of the fact that in the last harvest the EJT forces supplied 13 mills with more than had been planned initially; obviously the cane cutters made an all-out effort.

The results are compelling: during this harvest the EJT cut one-fifth of the cane harvested manually throughout Cuba and 11 percent of the total refined product.

Average productivity per worker was 300 arrobas, 117 percent of the figure planned and the highest average attained by any group working in the harvest.

In productivity alone there was an average increase of 25 arrobas per worker. All the groups exceeded their production quotas, especially Pinar del Rio and Matanzas, whose figures went up 89 and 45 arrobas per worker, respectively.

As to the delivery of cane to the refineries, the EJT met its goal of 106 percent with a total of more than 620 million arrobas. It is noteworthy that in comparison with last year's harvest 7 million additional arrobas were harvested this year.

It is especially important that this increase in the amount of cane cut was accomplished during a harvest which was 20 days shorter than last year's. In this year's harvest the EJT also harvested more than in any other of the eight in which it has participated.

Describing the harvest in terms of completion of work plans by individual areas, Camaguey stood out as the best overall, with Villa Clara and Pinar del Rio reaching a high in terms of daily production and Matanzas also performing well in terms of productivity and total production.

The key element which had decisive importance in raising the totals for the EJT in the harvest was the effort of the Millionaire Movement. Although this harvest was shorter than last year's, 35 crews more than last year reached the million-arroba mark. Also, the quality of work went up, as seen in the fact that compared to last year 9 percent more crews met their quotas.

Of the total number of crews, 319 cut a million arrobas of cane or more, with 270 at 1 million, 40 at 2 million, 8 at 3 million, and 1 at 4 million, the Manuel Enrique Olivareas brigade of Ciego de Avila. Camaguey had the largest number for any area of crews cutting over 1 million arrobas.

A number of factors combined in a positive manner so that the EJT could reach such praiseworthy levels. Some of these factors were the preparatory effort by the harvest organization, the selfless labor of the combatants, the systematic and direct political and organizational effort by the general staff with the troop, the contributions by the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and the party organizations, as well as the improvements in the living conditions of the units.

The head of EJT himself, Maj Gen Rigoberto Garcia Fernandez, referred recently to the enormous preparatory effort required for the harvest and to its importance in shaping the results. He said, "It is clear that there are great reserves of productivity within our soldiers, and it is possible to draw on them if basic requirements are met regarding organization of the work and material and political support."

The basic lesson learned was this: from the first the project went well, heralding optimum results, but also, as the EJT chief said, "We improved our operating methods, we were better motivated at all levels, and we involved people more closely, which is our primary goal."

Now all the efforts of the troops are being devoted to sowing and cultivating cane for the next harvest, and the principal objective on the occasion of EJT's eighth anniversary on 3 August is to be in harmony with the motto, "On the eighth anniversary, more production and defense." This is the EJT's new challenge.

11,989
CSO: 3010/1550

HAVANA VIEWS GUATEMALAN SITUATION, PROPOSED SATO

Guatemala: Guerrilla Offensive

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Jun 81 p 18

[Article by T.D.B.]

[Text] The Guatemalan situation is characterized at this time by a strong guerrilla offensive by the revolutionary organizations People's Guerrilla Army (EGP), Rebel Armed Forces (FAR), Organization of People in Arms (ORPA) and the nucleus of the Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT), as well as by the profound economic, political, diplomatic and military crisis in which the criminal government of Romeo Lucas is struggling along.

The middle class is desperately seeking a solution to this crisis through a change of administration in the forthcoming elections, but the contradictions and disputes among its members are such that they cannot agree and are even killing each other.

Such was the case with MLN [National Liberation Movement] deputy Jorge Torres Ocampo, murdered by his own party because he did not concur in the candidacy of Sandoval Alarcon.

The same was true of the attempted assassination of Christian Democrat leader Vinicio Cerezo, whom the government tried to have killed, just as it has murdered several leaders of that political group.

A similar case was that of Justo Rufino Wright, PR [Revolutionary Party] leader in Puerto Barrios and a victim of the disputes within the government party. Rufino was not only savagely tortured, but after he was dead, his body was taken from its grave and mutilated.

All these disagreements among the subservient parties demonstrate the extent of the political crisis facing the Guatemalan Government.

With only a year to go before the elections, the reactionaries have not succeeded in agreeing on a candidate and apparently know very well that the people no longer believe in either parties or politicians.

Romeo Lucas has failed completely in everything he has attempted, and his administration is so weak that it is incapable of taking any effective measures on the various levels of local life.

The dictatorship has no solution for the economic crisis, and in spite of the fact that the rich blame the people for their economic problems, the coffee growers, merchants and other wealthy persons complain daily about their situation, while the tyrannical government is powerless.

On the international scene, the regime is completely alone as a result of world condemnation of Lucas' crimes. That isolation has brought about the defeat of his traditional claims on the territory of Belize.

The advance of the Salvadoran revolutionary process and the successes of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua are increasing the isolation and weakness of the Guatemalan dictatorship.

Harrassed at home by the stepped-up revolutionary struggle and overseas by what has already been mentioned, the repressive forces are resorting to desperate terrorism against the people, to underhanded intervention in the affairs of their Salvadoran neighbors and to the illusory hope that Ronald Reagan is going to solve --God knows how--all their problems.

But this sort of thinking will not change the country's situation or hold back the revolution. The organizations leading the people's struggle are stronger and more united today than ever. The result of their development and the process which continues to bring them closer together has come clearly into view in the last few months.

The insurgents have beaten back the army and other repressive forces and have inflicted hundreds of casualties in several battles. The guerrilla units have gone to villages, ranches and barrios with weapons in hand, bringing the revolutionary message.

This revolutionary deployment of the four organizations, supported by the struggle of the masses, was responsible for the failure of the repressive offensive launched recently by the army. The government was not able to defeat the guerrillas and had to deploy its troops throughout the country to try to defend its various headquarters which were permanently threatened.

The EGT, FAR, ORPA and PGT have extended their operations to new areas and incorporated various sectors of the people into the ongoing people's war.

The Guatemalan fighters know that they will have to fight battles which are increasing in size and to launch a difficult struggle before achieving their victory, but they are advancing on their path with a firm step, with full confidence in the people's decision to fight.

South Atlantic Alliance

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 14 Jun 81 pp 16-17

[Article by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] After the failure of the "seminar" held in Buenos Aires to establish the South Atlantic Treaty Organization (SATO), the ultrarightist forces which organized the conclave are awaiting orders from the United States to reactivate the mechanisms designed to create once and for all an armed bloc in the ocean which separates Africa from Latin America.

Although it was financed by banks in Italy and on the Rio de la Plata--this last connected with the Morgan clan of the United States--and sponsored by reactionary sectors in Argentina, the United States, Chile, Brazil and South Africa, the event came to an end without the materialization of all the conditions needed to put the final seal on the pact.

The delegates met in session under such extenuating and confusing titles as "Capitalism in the Light of the Social Objectives of the Western Religions" and "Energy and the Strategic Security of the Americas," immersed in the classic anticommunist verbiage of myopic individuals bent on denying the world the things needed for change.

Washington, chief "godfather" of the meeting, has been trying for 20 years to develop an armed regional organization similar to NATO, although with somewhat lesser ambitions. It is trying in this way to hinder the development of liberation movements and the independent action of decolonized countries and to control the strategic South Atlantic area, through which passes more than 60 percent of the petroleum and raw materials destined for the West.

The United States is trying to militarize several regions of the world which are "vital" to its hegemonic interests. The public knows about the unjustified Yankee presence in the waters of the Middle East, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean. In bringing together, in another military pact, South Africa and Chile and private representatives of Argentina, Brazil and possibly of Uruguay, favorable conditions are being created for stepping up the arms race, altering military parity with the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact and then, according to the Reagan administration, for negotiating the terms of detente from a position of strength.

Ghisojo Araya, who has a difficult name and is, moreover, a general, by all indications, spoke out more freely than usual a short time ago, and from his post as interim chief of the Chilean Naval General Staff he outlined what his bosses are pushing as vital points of SATO.

Araya said that "the quadrilateral formed by Chile in Punta Arenas, the Beagle Channel and Antartica; the Falkland Islands of Great Britain; South Africa and Brazil constitute the basic defense perimeter of the South Atlantic."

It is noteworthy that the fascist official repeated the concepts being pushed in the geopolitics of his bosses. This sphere "philosophy" is being used by the

White House to bring together in the same sack all the uniformed assassins in the southern cone of the continent.

Guests Back Out

The Buenos Aires meeting definitely started out to be very well attended, but then the guests began to back out. With the refusal of Argentina and Brazil to send official representatives, a bucket of cold water fell on the heads of the organizers.

Vernon Walters, a Yankee general whose sole job is to preside at these lively gatherings, deemed it proper not to go to the Argentine capital, since the number of delegates dropped so unexpectedly. The former deputy director of the CIA and present adviser to Alexander Haig preferred to follow the discussions from a distance.

Arch-reactionary Jeane Kirkpatrick, very much to her sorrow, chose to remain at her UN post. She wanted ardently to kiss the cheeks of the South Africans, with whom she has lately cultivated such close ties. In the end, not even the racist representatives were able to come to Buenos Aires.

The failure is indisputably linked to the refusal of Argentina and Brazil to attend the conclave officially. Gen Roberto Viola's government addressed the United Nations to explain that if the SATA meeting were held, it would be as a private meeting, since his country would not contribute any resources to that undertaking. Viola and Joao Baptista Figueiredo, the Brazilian chief executive, reaffirmed their opposition to the creation of the bloc and came out against colonialism, apartheid and South Africa's occupation of Namibia.

FOLHA DE SAO PAULO emphasized that Brazil's overseas political objectives and particularly its increasing cooperation with independent African countries are in conflict with the plans of the White House, which is trying to make the Atlantic--according to the newspaper--a scene of confrontation.

Brazil has a growing trade with several nations of black Africa. That aspect is basic when it comes to whether or not to bow to membership in a pact of which one of the members is South Africa, imperialism's policeman on the continent.

As for Argentina, the basic role given by the United States to Chile in the development is extremely noteworthy. The Santiago government is constantly renewing its military zeal and does nothing to hide its assistance to dictatorships, such as El Salvador, and to Pretoria in its intervention in Namibia.

As is well known, Chile and Argentina have a dispute regarding the islands in the Beagle Channel. Recently the dispute became heated and border stations were even closed. In no way can General Viola's government view favorably any plan which encourages Pinochet's belligerence, and SATO is one of those plans.

In view of the refusal of Buenos Aires to sponsor the bloc, Adm Harry Train, commander in chief of U.S. forces in the Atlantic, was sent with urgency to convince the local armed forces of the pact's importance. In any case, Mr Train should

succeed in having Argentine troops sent to the Sinai to aid in "controlling" the application of the untenable Camp David Agreements.

After the Failure

After the resounding failure of the conclave, which was to serve as the springboard for SATO, White House advisers must be beating their brains. They missed a marvelous opportunity to try to end the worldwide anti-apartheid campaign, which favors Namibia. The Atlantic pact, conversely, would shore up Pretoria against this deluge of censure.

But the outcome was otherwise. For the moment there is no pact. One measure to be taken will surely be to strengthen the Pinochet-Botha axis. For some reason Air Force Gen Fernando Mattei went to Johannesburg during the ongoing exchange of committees between the two regimes.

Mattei had to return the recent visit to Chile of racist Rear Admiral Martinus Albertus Backery, express his thanks once more for the delivery at the beginning of 1981 of Grotale land-to-air missiles and discuss with his hosts the reopening of contacts between the two countries and with the United States and Israel.

The Zionists promised the Chilean fascists to deliver some Dagger airplanes. All these deliveries and the blessing of the White House--remember that Reagan lifted the ban on sending arms to Pinochet--give the Pinochet supporters great opportunities to assume the role of policeman within the spluttering SATO, while they await better political circumstances which will definitely favor the founding in the Atlantic of a pact as belligerent as that of NATO.

For the moment, SATO is keeping "mutis"* [mum], perhaps lying in wait, because in practice several of the treaty's destabilizing articles can be carried out without prior signature.

*Mutis: a term used in the theater meaning that an actor is to exit; familiar interjection: Silence!

8735

CS0: 3010/1549

NEW PLAYS ON ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR DISCUSSED

'Rampa Arriba' Reviewed

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 13 May 81 p 4

[Article by Carlos Espinosa]

[Text] Alejandra and Alicia could have been two young girls like so many others in our country. They are studying at a preuniversity center which means that they will soon go to university. They could have gone on to become architects, philologists, physicists or perhaps doctors.

That would have been possible if their families had taken better care of them. Gloria, Alejandra's mother, is the typical permissive mother who is incapable of being concerned over the bad company her daughter keeps. Eloisa, on the other hand, has so many things on her mind--the workers' union, the production meeting, reports to the municipal authorities--that she hardly devotes any time to the upbringing of her daughter. As a result, both teenagers fall into a behavior pattern which is unacceptable in our type of society; they get involved in smuggling, sexual dissipation and finally....

But, I will say no more because it is not right to tell our readers how the play ends. Those who want to know the end of this story, only have to go to the Mella Theater where "Rampa Arriba, Rampa Abajo" is opening next Saturday.

The play, presented by the Bertolt Brecht Political Theatrical Group, was written by Yulky Cary and in 1979 it received the UNEAC [National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists] award for dramatic plays. Lilliam Serena is stage director and is assisted by Jose Maria Vitier for the music, Miriam Duenas for costumes and Derubin Jacome for lighting and sets.

Logically, a play involving young people calls for a mostly young cast. The two leading roles in "Rampa Arriba" are played by Elvira Enriquez and Luisa Maria Jimenez; other parts are played by Rini Cruz Vera, Amarylis Pumeda, Lily Renteria, Esmerita Ramirez, Elba Marquez, Orquidea Rivero and Raul Eguren together with several preuniversity students who belong to the amateur theatrical movement.

Not many days are left before opening night and the group is working nonstop to iron out final details. During a rehearsal break, we approached Elvira Enriquez

who will be one of the actresses playing Alejandra and asked her to tell us about her new role. It will enrich her already prominent artistic career marked by stage appearances which include the woman commissar in "La Tragedia Optimista" and Valentina in "Valentin y Valentina."

"This play," the actress begins by telling us, "is built around a subject which has never been presented on stage. For that reason, I think that it is a very important subject and also because, unfortunately, we have many young girls like Alejandra in this country. This is why the audience will be able to identify with the play, not only the young people but also adults who, in fact, are responsible for bringing up the new generation."

Referring to the difficulties of playing her role, she told us: "The main difficulty was that, to a certain extent, Alejandra is a role similar to Corina in 'Andoba,' because unless something is done she will come to the same end. On first analysis, they are very similar roles and I was concerned I repeat myself."

"On the other hand, when one portrays what we could call a negative character, one runs the risk of arousing the audience's sympathy. In this case, one must try to create among the audience feelings of rejection, pity and censure while not denying to the character the possibility of starting a new life."

As you can gather, the opening of "Rampa Arriba, Rampa Abajo" offers aspects which are interesting enough to make us go to the Mella Theater. We specially recommend this play to young people who, after seeing it, should compare their reactions and even engage in controversy.

Play on Peruvian Embassy Incident

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 28 Jun 81 p 56

[Article by E. Alberto]

[Text] "El Escache" or "El Tiro Por la Culata"--Abraham Rodriguez' most recent play presented by the Bertolt Brecht Political Theatrical Group [GTP] and directed by Mario Balmaseda--is not as interesting, in my opinion, as the subject on which it is based would have led you to expect. When it became known that a play dealing with the events inside the Peruvian Embassy was in the works, the project acted as a magnet and immediately drew everybody's attention because, undoubtedly, hotly debated topical events are not presented in our theaters very often. But after seeing this second play written by the author of "Andoba," I feel that the fact that the events were so recent was an obstacle which the Political Theatrical Group was not able to overcome with their usual mastery.

On the one hand, "El Escache" presents an almost complete range of the antisocial elements who, in the "spring" of last year, turned a diplomatic mission into a real zoo of almost extinct species or, even worse, into the garbage dump of that zoo. Abraham's play goes through each "specimen" and reveals on stage their deplorable human characteristics.

To tell the truth, his portrayal is skillfully presented but there are times when the author "goes too far" recreating in full detail the wide range of despicable characters and, as a result, the play loses intensity. On the other hand, Abraham pays a great deal of attention to the question of how the committees created by the antisocial elements were run describing the various stages of their creation, peak, crisis and total ruin. The antisocial elements are authentic puppets in the hands of "expert" puppet masters--the imperialists and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Meanwhile, the plot introduces a new and increasingly powerful element, the part played by comrades of the MININT [Ministry of Interior] in the events which took place in the very middle of the embassy underworld--highlighting their activity to disrupt the campaign intended to deceive the antisocial "crowd," a campaign which was trying to turn these events into an occasion to loudly discredit the Cuban revolution throughout the world. The attempt backfired. The refugees and dissidents suffered a terrible reverse. And yet, I think that something which worked in theory did not work in a play.

For his play, Abraham had firsthand documentary evidence supplied by the state security agencies, a fact which permits us to state that "El Escache" is a play true to the facts, a dramatized documentary of events and their principals. But this is not enough to turn the play into a work of permanent value. The author does not go into the motives and reasons behind these remarkable events; he does not individualize the tragedy--or the comedy since extremes meet, as the Cuban saying goes--although if he had done so he would have thrown more light on the play. The plot is too involved and the bag of rotten apples offered to the audience becomes, from time to time, too ambitious and confusing. The only clear fact is something that all of us, revolutionaries, know for sure: that the scum went into the embassies and the enemy tried to pretend that these terrible elements smelled like roses.

The role played by the comrades of MININT is not clearly described (it is hard to imagine who was the agent who penetrated into the very heart of the embassy). Perhaps this had to be so for obvious reasons. But a certain amount of fiction could have been used in that matter. A theatrical play is allowed to use this type of dramatic technique and the public appreciates it.

In my opinion, the use of film footage does not add any information of special interest since the audience still remembers these films perfectly well. The music by Pablo Milanés is effective but is only used to link the various scenes thus wasting an instrument which could have been put to greater and better use in the play. The sets are functional and, with few props, it manages to convey a realistic picture of the scene where the events took place. The acting is very much of the same level allround. If any part deserves to be specially mentioned, it is the part of Dr Eugenio Hernández--the only role which is developed through the play--and parts such as Frijolito (played by Alberto Pedro).

Another element missing in the play is the people's reaction to the antisocial elements. The scene where the grandmother "kidnaps" her grandson moves the spectators because it is skillfully dramatized but that scene is not enough to

express the courage and dignity of the people who fought one of their most momentous battles on that occasion. It is true that the documentary film stresses that very point but, for the time being, I think that the method is inadequate. As events fall further back in our memories, these films will perhaps arouse new feelings of anger and pride but just a few months after it all happened, the film becomes repetitive. Abraham and Mario Balmaseda have enough imagination to iron out these small details.

8796

CSO: 3010/1548

BRIEFS

POLITICAL PARTY SEEKS INVESTIGATION--The National Unity Front (FUN) has issued a press release in which it states that the party is making a detailed study of the denunciations made by Manuel de Jesus Valiente Tellez, former chief of detectives of the national police, accusing government leaders of illegal activities. The release goes on to say that with such accusations "the citizenry is disconcerted as it does not know what to believe." There are frequent occurrences of kidnapping, theft and murder, and we hear nothing of the results of the investigations, as in the case of the daughter of Francisco Gularte Cojulun who is still in the custody of unknown parties. "It is public knowledge," the release says, "that ever since the present director general of police took over this difficult job he has been housecleaning the organization and, for that reason, he will not overlook the accusation 'that the detective corps, with few exceptions, is comprised of known criminals.' To clear the institution's good name," the FUN release further states, "it is fitting that a thorough study should be made of the personnel working in the detective corps to see whether or not there are criminals in its ranks, as reported by Valiente Tellez. That is the only way," it says, "the esteemed citizenry can be guaranteed security based on the constitution of the republic." [Text] [Guatemala PRENSA LIBRA in Spanish 12 Jul 81 p 6] 8568

CSO: 3010/1578

'LA PRENSA' EDITOR PEDRO CHAMORRO INTERVIEWED

PY310359 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Jul 81 Section 8 p 140

[Interview with Pedro Chamorro, Nicaraguan LA PRENSA editor, by WORLD PRESS REVIEW magazine; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] What has life been like since the Sandinist revolution?

[Answer] A good example is what happened last spring, when a crowd threatened LA PRENSA and attacked three private radio stations which had criticized the government. They destroyed the transformers and stole part of the equipment, then they completely ruined two of them. The third radio station was damaged but managed to continue its broadcasts.

At the newspaper LA PRENSA, the demonstrators organized picket lines but did not cause much damage because the police arrived before them. On that evening, the interior minister--who claims to be neutral--advised us to temporarily suspend the publication of the newspaper or, if not, the vandals could destroy our installations. We, therefore, stopped selling our newspapers on the streets for 2 days, but when we published them again, we sold 90,000 copies, one-third more than usual.

Two days later, an official communique practically approved what had happened. It stated that the demonstrations had been a logical reaction of the people to the "independent and reactionary" radio stations and newspapers. ()

[Question] Why did the police keep the people away from LA PRENSA?

[Answer] If LA PRENSA were destroyed, the political consequences could have been much greater than those related to the radio stations. Since then, LA PRENSA has been leading a political campaign to collect funds to reequip these radio stations. It is important to note that these radio stations had been independent before and had also been opposed to Somoza.

[Question] Why is the government afraid of damaging LA PRENSA?

[Answer] It is the most popular newspaper in Nicaragua, with a daily edition of approximately 70,000 copies, more than the other two Managua newspapers put together. More important still is the international support which has given

prestige to LA PRENSA during the 2 [as published] years of struggle against the dictatorship of Somoza. The people are aware that the demonstrations against us were not spontaneous, although the government may have stated that they were.

We support the Nicaraguan revolution, but we are against any shift toward totalitarianism. We want the revolution channeled toward a democracy. We have the support of all Latin American democratic forces, including that of the Inter-American Press Association and of some democratic countries which helped put the Sandinists in power.

[Question] In what aspect aren't the Sandinists being democratic?

[Answer] They are not providing freedom of assembly to all political parties, but only to the Sandinists. They forbid all other political parties from holding meetings. They have seized many private industries, including some which had not belonged to Somoza, and they have also been attacking all independent communications media.

Furthermore, they have established close contacts with the Soviet Union and they practically idolize Cuba. They state that some one ought to teach us "the Cuban model." They look at Fidel Castro as if he were the world leader.

They have created a climate of hatred in the country. The Nicaraguan revolution was possible due to the joint effort of all classes to put an end to dictatorship, and now, the bourgeoisie feels threatened and they refuse to make investments. There has been a real brain drain. This revolution is not democratic.

[Question] Are there political prisoners in the country?

[Answer] Some people were incarcerated recently because the government claims that they have been involved in counterrevolutionary activities. They have been given a summary trial and sentenced from 10 to 12 years in prison. They have not been given fair trials.

[Question] What has the government done regarding agrarian reform?

[Answer] It has created many collective farms, but it has not given land to the peasants, although it confiscated large estates including some of the best land in Nicaragua. Now they have been turned into collective farms--state-owned companies--although they have not obtained any profit so far due to bad administration.

[Question] What percentage of the economy is still in the hands of private individuals?

[Answer] Almost 50 percent. Commerce, agriculture and some industry are still under the control of the private sector. The largest portion of industry, of mining activities, of fishing and transportation are controlled by the government.

[Question] How do you know that the state companies are not doing well?

[Answer] Many businesses are closed. There is high unemployment rate and inflation rate is also high--reaching approximately 30 percent. It is not as high as in South America, but Central America has always been a region with low inflation rate. We are having problems in obtaining manpower for the harvest of cotton and coffee. Some of the manpower that formerly did this is now in the army, which has grown considerably. Exactly how many are in the army is a secret, but a large number of unemployed persons have ended up in unproductive activities such as the army or public service.

Nevertheless, Nicaragua appears to be a prosperous country. People form lines in front of movies and restaurants. They have money to spend. But production is low and the amount of foreign currency is not sufficient to cover the necessary import costs so consumer goods are scarce.

[Question] What is the unemployment rate?

[Answer] A considerable percentage of the working force is unemployed, but the government does not know exactly how many because there are no data in this regard. The government either does not know how or does not want to compile the data. The government has published any statistics on the situation of companies belonging to the people. Of course, they are in bad shape, nevertheless we should be informed about public funds. We criticize this state of things in our newspaper.

[Question] Has the country been receiving aid from Cuba or the Soviet Union?

[Answer] I believe so, although I am not in a position to say what kind of aid--probably technical aid. There is some military aid, but I do not know how much.

[Question] Are there a large number of Soviets?

[Answer] There are very few Soviets in the country; the Soviet Embassy is very small. But there are delegations from all countries of the Eastern Bloc--Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and the GDR--and they were not here before. We should maintain relations with all these countries, including the Soviet Union, but the problem is that we are very small and very poor and a large diplomatic corps abroad represents a heavy burden. International trips and the cost of living in other countries is expensive.

We usually criticize this policy in LA PRENSA. We still have some freedom of expression and we try to use it for a greater benefit of the country. But obviously there are some limitations.

[Question] What are these limitations?

[Answer] We cannot publish any report which may directly involve the military, without submitting it for consideration to the military. We must also obtain confirmation from official sources regarding reports related to national security or to the economy. It is quite problematic.

[Question] Do the officials censure the newspaper?

[Answer] Not necessarily everyday.

[Question] Is freedom of press better or worse than under Somoza's dictatorship?

[Answer] Neither better nor worse. Under Somoza, there were times when there was no freedom at all. There were journalists in prison. There were armed attacks on our building during the night. There was a period of 2 1/2 years of rigid press censorship. My father was arrested several times, before he was assassinated. The situation is different now.

The problem is that the government wants us to say that there is absolute freedom of the press. But we cannot violate our own principles; we have to tell the truth. If government officials want us to say that there is absolute freedom of press, then they will have to eliminate all restrictions. Our constitution provides for freedom of press.

[Question] Have you been asked to say that there are no restrictions?

[Answer] When we report that there are restrictions, the government states that we are trying to damage the revolution. Government officials attack us over radio and television which are under government control, and also in the two newspapers controlled by the state. There has been a systematic campaign against LA PRENSA since the officials found out that our newspaper would follow an independent line without any ideological position. We are really democrats; we are not Marxists.

[Question] Could you describe the junta that is governing Nicaragua for us?

[Answer] The junta is made up of nine persons. They were elected during the insurrection. There were three factions which formed coalition.

There are disagreements, but they try to reflect a public image of unity. There is a constant struggle for power.

[Question] Is there anyone who is stronger than the others?

[Answer] Two persons: Umberto Ortega, commander in chief of the army, and Thomas Borge. As the other members of the junta, they have Marxist tendencies.

[Question] Are the groups which carried out the revolution Marxists?

[Answer] No, many of them contributed with their cooperation in the revolution, but then the strongest one seized power. Now they want to keep it at any cost. They do not want elections. They say that there will be elections in 1985--in order to consolidate the revolutionary power, and not to decide on who will remain in power, because power is already in the hands of the people. They state that Nicaragua will not become a Cuba.

[Question] Can Nicaragua become independent from Cuba?

[Answer] It is a question of the degree of independence. There are moral and ideological ties--with Cuba, the Soviet Union, the GDR, Bulgaria, Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea--which cannot be broken. Ties with friends cannot be broken overnight. There are other things which must be taken into account in interdependent international relations, such as the economic or technical aid.

[Question] What can the Reagan administration do for Nicaragua?

[Answer] It seems that the Reagan administration wants to suspend U.S. aid to Nicaragua, or at least to condition it. It seems to say: "Stay within Nicaragua; do not export revolution." But anyhow, the aid of the Reagan administration to Nicaragua is not comparable to that which is being given to El Salvador. The 1982 budget includes approximately \$100 million for El Salvador and \$32 million for Nicaragua, but this can be complicated in congress.

[Question] What influence can El Salvador have in relation to Nicaragua?

[Answer] If the left wins in El Salvador, then this fact will consolidate the Nicaraguan revolution. I do not believe that we are going to have a democracy. We are not going to have elections as in Costa Rica. If we have candidates, they will be Sandinists. We are moving toward a new form of dictatorship.

[Question] Is this your own statement?

[Answer] Five independent political parties have made this statement, that we are moving in that direction, and we published that in big headlines.

[Question] Do the other members of your family actively participate in LA PRENSA?

[Answer] My mother is a member of the board and of the editorial council. My uncle, who is well-known Nicaraguan poet and writer, is the editor of the newspaper, with me and third person. We three are the editors of LA PRENSA, in shifts of 3 days each.

[Question] Are you concerned over the role of the press and other needs.

[Answer] Yes, because the government can argue--and it seems logical--that there is a shortage of foreign currency as a consequence of the drop in export activities. Even now we are subject to long delays in getting our goods from customs. We could have problems if the government continues supplying dollars to the other two newspapers and not to us.

[Question] Is there anything left from Somoza's interests?

[Answer] Nothing. They were confiscated or destroyed. The Somoza family left the country.

[Question] What is the church's position regarding reforms in Nicaragua?

[Answer] The church is opposed to measures of socialist nature. Nicaraguans are a religious people and respect the church, but there are those who attack the church. The archbishop of Nicaragua took a firm position against the Somoza regime when he began to kill Nicaraguans. The archbishop is respected by the Sandinists and by everyone in Nicaragua. He is very important and continues making statements against violence.

[Question] Do those who raise their voice for freedom in the country give you any hope?

[Answer] We have a saying in our country according to which hope is the last thing to die. What is happening now does not portend a good future for Nicaragua, but we must continue working and trying to recover the democratic regime for which we fight, and all the freedoms in which we believe. If we lose hope, then we had better pack our bags and leave the country.

CSO: 3010/1638

REPORTAGE ON 29 JULY NATIONAL FORUM

Opposition Divided on Usefulness

PA300259 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Jul 81

[Interview with Jose Davila, secretary of International Relations of the Social Christian Party and chairman of the coordinating committee of the opposition sectors in the National Forum on 29 July by newsman Orion Elfilio Pastora; place not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Davila] Yesterday, we members of the democratic sectors met to discuss making known to the Nicaraguan people our position on the national forum. We were going to issue a document and were going to hold a news conference. However, we did not reach any agreement on the document and the news conference. This was basically due to the existence in the democratic sectors of two opinions on the national forum.

Some organizations believe that the Sandinist Front has already negated the forum because it has not kept its promises and because it has already scoffed at the forum and the organizations and therefore it makes no sense to continue in the national forum.

Another opinion is that the national forum can still be rescued, that it is still useful, and that since we are civic organizations, we have the obligation to try to make it valid [words indistinct] to find solutions to all our problems.

Since these positions were so (?far apart), we reached the conclusion that we were not going to issue a specific and definite position on the national forum because we believe that we must reach a consensus. We believe that we must reach a unanimous decision and we were unable to achieve this. [Words indistinct] our unity is above all. This is what the Nicaraguan people want.

The Nicaraguan people should know that the democratic sectors, the political parties and the independent union federations which want a democratic and pluralistic society in Nicaragua, will always be united at any price. That is why we sometimes have to defer decisions on positions in order to maintain unity which is something that we greatly desire. Most of the Nicaraguan people also understand the need for this unity. Just as we do, the Nicaraguan people want a democracy for Nicaragua.

[Question] We have learned that there was a meeting last week among the Sandinist Front, the parties of the [words indistinct] and the independent sectors of the country. What were the results of this meeting?

[Answer] I believe that we democratic parties should not do anything behind the backs of the people. On Thursday in a private meeting of the forum--it was private because this is what its regulations stipulate--we expressed to the delegation of the Sandinist Front and its parties our concern over the violation of the points of concurrences by the Sandinist Front when it announced decrees without having consulted the organizations of the national forum. We asked them what was the sense of the forum if it wasn't even used for consultations. Both delegations reached the agreement that the texts of the decrees and measures announced by Commander Daniel Ortega were going to be sent to us on Friday or Saturday. The problem is that not only weren't they sent to us, but they were instead published in the Gazette and are already in force. This has increased our concern about the usefulness of the national forum. We have clearly told our people since we began participating on the forum that we were aware that the Sandinist Front has the reputation of not keeping its commitments. We are now facing such a situation. On the one hand, we want to continue the discussion of the national problems but on the other hand, the Sandinist Front is failing in this regard. However, the Nicaraguan people can be sure that we will always make known all that has been discussed. They mocked us in the previous meeting so, we had to make this known. However, our [words indistinct] seeking a solution to the problems of our people.

FPR Parties Won't Discuss Laws

PA252020 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Text] The forum isn't to discuss the drafts of laws issued by the National Reconstruction Government Junta. The State Council, the People's Council, exists for this type of activity. Members of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution [FPR] have clearly told the delegates of the dissident parties that the discussions in the forum must be restricted to the previously established agenda. Nathan Sevilla [delegate of the FPR in forum] has commented on the forum and its problems.

[Begin recording] [Sevilla] We held a meeting on Thursday at which the rightist parties asked that there be a type of respite this weekend. We agreed, because the parties of the revolution were interested in holding their own meeting today to evaluate the progress of the forum, the implementation of concurrences and to see what specific subjects we still have to discuss and ways that the forum can be more dynamic and speedier.

However, regarding the dissident parties' request that we obtain the texts or decrees announced on 19 July, we told them that we will make the request to the National Reconstruction Government Junta but that logically they can't expect us to supply them with documents that have yet to be released to the public.

[Question] The decrees are still being discussed in the State Council. Isn't that where they should obtain them?

[Answer] That's right. We told them that if they want to obtain the documents being discussed by the State Council, they should either get them through their representative in the State Council, Ramiro Sacasa, or they should join the State Council.

We also told them that the forum is not to discuss the decrees and measures announced on 19 July. In any case, those discussions are taking place in the State Council. The forum has a set agenda which we must follow. If they have opinions on the revolutionary measures announced on 19 July, they can continue to make known these opinions as they have been doing through various channels but they cannot do this in the forum, because the forum has to continue to discuss the subjects approved in the agenda. [end recording]

The parties of the FPR are meeting at noon today. They will evaluate the progress of the forum and will draft proposals on new points of concurrence. The forum was not held today, at the request of the opposition parties. However, it will be held next weekend.

CSO: 3010/1625

MILITARY PREPAREDNESS BEST RESPONSE TO THREATS

PA260328 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Jul 81

[Commentary: "Let the Dogs Bark"]

[Excerpts] We will insist on defense and production. Once again, counterrevolutionary elements, former guardsmen and former Somozist agent Fagoth, are in Honduran territory boasting of how they are going to unleash a new bloodbath in Nicaragua. These statements made by the counterrevolution which is active in Honduras, Guatemala, and Miami are increasingly surprising because of their wild inventiveness in depicting the "horrors of Sandinism." This inventiveness is in line with their illusions of national insurrection, domestic commandos, liberation armies and the like.

The total incorporation of Nicaraguans into the Sandinist people's militias is the best way to ensure the defense of the fatherland's sovereignty and the revolution in light of the real and permanent threat which hangs over the Sandinists. The reactivation of our organized military preparations and the increased production of materials for defense are the priorities which our vanguard has rightly asked of us in light of the criminal and antinational activity of the counterrevolution. The revolutionary organizations of the masses must renew the tasks of reactivation and economic productivity, militarily prepare the people on a massive scale, and organize the Sandinist people's militia battalions. These are and will be for a long time, our priorities in this revolution. This is the only way to truly respond to what our vanguard's leaders expect of us. Only in this way can we reaffirm our right to write our history and to be the architects of our own destiny. Only in this way will we be proving the historical merit of being sons of Sandino, and brothers of Rigoberto, Carlos, Emilio and Pomares. Let the dogs bark, but we will be ready to pull out their fangs if they dare to harm Sandino's fatherland, or try to harm the Nicaraguan revolution which was made possible by the heroes and martyrs of the new fatherland and the Sandinist people's revolution.

CSO: 3010/1625

MEDICAL FEDERATION, CGTP CALL FOR GENERAL STRIKE

PY030040 Paris AFP in Spanish 1936 GMT 31 Jul 81

[Text] Lima, 31 Jul (AFP)--The Peruvian Medical Federation has called on all its members to strike indefinitely starting 10 August, and the Communist Workers Central Organization has called on the workers of the country for a 48-hour stoppage on 19 and 20 August.

The two movements are pursuing salary and social demands, but the government hopes to stave them off through negotiations or attention to the principal demands, taking the stand that the economic crisis can only be overcome through working and producing more.

The medical federation said that it is counting on the support of the fellow unions of dentists, pharmacists, obstetricians, nurses, chemists, social workers, and sanitary engineers.

It especially demands basic salaries of 270,000 sols (\$630) per month for its members, social security for the relatives of workers, free medical attention for the poor and cheaper medicine.

Indicating that there would be no attention anywhere for the sick and that death certificates would not be issued, the federation said that any eventual strike-breakers would be denounced to the ethics committee.

The government, for its part, reported that it had sent to parliament a draft law which envisages raises for the health sector varying between 40 to 95 percent of the basic salaries.

The General Confederation of Workers of Peru [CGTP], which has communist leanings, has had an agreement for a general strike since July 1980 [as received].

The communist CGTP is currently pushing for a united stoppage, that is to say, together with the other workers organizations and independent federations, whom it has invited to a meeting in order to draw up the pertinent agreements.

Its list of demands includes rehiring all those who have been fired, a general salary raise of 25,000 sols per month (\$60), freezing of food prices, nationalization of newspapers and labor stability.

It also seeks the abolition of laws and decrees that it considers anti-union, the creation of a state payment for the unemployed (some 400,000 persons), the solution of the housing problem and a series of other measures.

Concerning this, the labor authorities have said that it is an eminently political document, that the government is improving the workers' income and that it is struggling on all fronts to overcome the crisis.

CSO: 3010/1629

FUTURE LATIN AMERICAN-FRENCH TIES VIEWED DIMLY

PY301302 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 12 Jul 81 p 58

[Article by Gerardo Calderon]

[Text] After the reaffirmation made by Mitterrand during an interview with delegates of the Nicaraguan rebel movement to the effect that he supported the type of policy that is causing a blood bath in the small Central American state, it is now time to analyze the ideas and tactics of the French President as related to the affairs pertaining to our continent.

During the past few decades violence has hit several Latin American countries. The Tupamaros in Uruguay and the Montoneros in Argentina tried to overthrow and capture the seat of power through savage violence. The aftermath was painful, because there were many victims. But in the end the two movements were exterminated. Regrettably this violence left two bloody sides with a tragic aftermath of orphans, widows and anguish in any amount of homes.

[Words illegible] and at the same time there are outbreaks throughout Colombia and there have been attempts to create the same type of atmosphere in other countries, such as Peru.

We are now interested in the ideas of Debray, who since 1966 has been very closely linked to Castro's revolution. He then came in to the limelight when he gave himself up in Bolivia, where he was possibly acting as Che Guevara's envoy. Guevara's dangerous life came to an end when his formula for armed guerrilla actions failed. It is said that he was betrayed by the French ideologist.

Some time later Debray was released by the Bolivian Government and he crossed the Andes to Chile. Under the umbrella of socialist President Salvador Allende he wrote a book in which he analyzed Che's failure in the humid tropics of Bolivia. In his book he ratifies his political position and he reaffirms his faith in violence.

Traditionally, France and Latin America have friendly links in the cultural and economic fields. France has an important market on this continent for its manufactured products and within its Western economic system. It is the same continent on which Debray tried to ignite the holocaust that would have consumed our system and then pushed it in to the Marxist orbit.

The panorama is now clear. After the public support that the French President has given to the Nicaraguan subversive movement it can be presumed that all similar movements that are to be found within the continent's confines will receive the same support. And logically this position means that there will have to be a change in the continent's foreign policy regarding France.

Luckily, France is not indispensable for the economies of the continent and Peru. The vacuum that this country would leave in the field of economic investment can easily be filled with the credit and technology of the FRG, Japan, Great Britain and the United States, the world's top economic power.

CSO: 3010/1629

BRIEFS

TERRORISTS ATTACK AYACUCHO--Ayacucho, 24 Jul (TELAM)--Various state organizations of this city, east of Lima, were the objects of fresh terrorist attacks. The attacks were perpetrated against land court offices, the Council of San Juan Bautista District and the Industrial Bank, but in the last-mentioned case the dynamite did not explode. Two days ago it was learned that three terrorist attacks had taken place in the city of La Oroya, a metallurgical center in Junin Department. [Text] [PY270243 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2058 GMT 26 Jul 81]

CERRO DE PASCO WATER SUPPLY--Cerro de Pasco, 23 Jul (TELAM)--The dynamiting of a water main cut the water supply for several hours in this city located east of Lima. The attack was perpetrated early yesterday morning shortly after a guard deactivated a bomb at the headquarters of the state-owned enterprise Electroperu, thus averting another dynamite attack. [Text] [PY240303 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1720 GMT 23 Jul 81]

HUARAZ, RECUAY ATTACK--Lima, 28 Jul (AFP)--A high tension pylon was blown up in an attack leaving Huaraz and Recuay, 500 km northeast of Lima, without power. Meanwhile, a stick of dynamite was thrown during a military parade marking the 160th anniversary of Peruvian independence in Arequipa, 1,000 km south of here. An army NCO put out the fuse of the dynamite stick, according to reports. These events were in addition to 13 other terrorist attacks occurring yesterday in Lima and the southern Andean city of Ayacucho. In Ayacucho dynamite sticks were thrown at the Education Ministry and a school parade. In neither case were there any injuries. Elsewhere, a giant hammer and sickle were set ablaze this afternoon on San Cristobal Hill in Lima as President Fernando Belaunde was reading his independence day message to congress. The symbol was visible from Lima's Plaza de Armas. It covered nearly one-third of the hilltop and could be seen more clearly than a cross on the same hill. It was put out by civil guardsmen, however. [Text] [PY300311 Paris AFP in Spanish 0431 GMT 29 Jul 81]

PUNISHMENT OF TERRORISTS--Javier Alva Orlandini, the brand new president of the Senate, yesterday requested exceptional punishment for those responsible for the terrorist attacks the day before independence day for not respecting the patriotic meaning of that date. His accusing statements were especially addressed to those responsible for the detonation of explosive devices in Ayacucho and Huanta which seriously threatened the lives of policemen taking part in a parade of students. Alva Orlandini stated that it is necessary to double the efforts

to identify the authors of these incidents so that they may be placed at the courts' disposal and punished according to the law. The president of the Senate and second vice president of Peru made these statements shortly before congratulating the chief of state on the Peruvian independence anniversary. [Text] [PY301539 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jul 81]

RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS--Lima, 26 Jul (AFP)--The Peruvian Government has reiterated its utmost respect for human dignity despite another escalation of five dynamite attacks which created unrest in various areas of the country in the last 48 hours. Interior Minister Jose Maria De La Jara Y Ureta said to the Human Rights and Constitution Commission of the Senate that the constitutional government maintains its utmost respect for human dignity and condemns any form of abuse, excessive use of power and attack. I have received the claims submitted to my office about alleged violations of human rights, said the minister about a number of claims against the police, particularly against the Sinchis Special Forces [antiterrorist force] that operate in seven departments and which have been able to considerably reduce terrorist activities. He also said that since the new administration took over the government, his ministry has approved measures to renew commanders of the three police forces to change not only the men but also the norms of conduct and methods. De La Jara emphasized that the police forces--within the democratic framework--must be respectable and that the uniform should not serve for arbitrary actions to become a norm and attacks a daily habit. In conclusion he reiterated that those who are found responsible for the torture of the student Edmundo Cox--recently reported by the Catholic Church--will be punished if their participation is fully proven. [Excerpt] [PY310024 Paris AFP in Spanish 1758 GMT 26 Jul 81]

APRISTA CHAIRMAN RESIGNS--Luis Alberto Sanchez yesterday confirmed his resignation as chairman of the Aprista Congressional Bloc and explained that the main reasons for his decision are the attack he experienced in Chimbote and the recent plenary meeting which was anything but "unity-seeking." Luis Alberto Sanchez told a group of journalists who came to visit him at the Senate that "only if the congressional bloc of the Aprista Party achieves unity and becomes what it was once again, shall I return. He said that reports to the effect that he had gone back on his decision were nothing but "idiotic rumors" and added that "when I make up my mind I never go back." Sanchez indicated that "I am prepared to support and cooperate with any action aimed at true party unity, but this does not apply to cases as the recent plenary meeting which was factional and did not include a large sector of the party. He explained: "I cannot preside over an Aprista Congressional Bloc which is divided. It was also very foolish not to invite me to the plenary meeting." The Aprista senator recalled the main events of his recent visit to Chimbote and said that the fact that the doors of the Aprista headquarters were closed in his face was an example of "insolence and stupidity." He said that this should not have been done to him, even though a plenary meeting was underway in Lima, because he was a national leader, a senator and the chairman of the Aprista Congressional Bloc. [Excerpt] [PY302206 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 9 Jul 81 p 4]

ASYLUM TO FOREIGNERS--Lima, 24 Jul (AFP)--The Peruvian Government will fully grant the right of asylum to those foreign citizens who ask for it, Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella said here today. He said this before a Senate committee investigating the return to Havana of a Cuban stowaway who arrived in Lima last month. Immigration authorities said then that the stowaway, Candido Lescano Gonzales, came out of the hold of a Soviet commercial airplane and tried to avoid the inspection desk. In his attempt to get by he was caught by airport personnel and, being unable to prove his identity, he was put back on a plane to Havana since he did not ask for asylum and since he was not a political refugee. Today Foreign Minister Arias Stella reiterated that he found out about the incident through the press--which said that the stowaway had asked for asylum and which criticized his being returned to Cuba--adding that the decision was made without consulting the Foreign Ministry. The police chief who ordered the stowaway's return was punished by his department, which confirmed that the decision was made without consulting higher authorities. The department added despite the need to conform with legal norms, the special circumstances of the stowaway's nationality would have made it necessary to consult higher authorities on the matter. [Text] [PY300315 Paris AFP in Spanish 0554 GMT 25 Jul 81]

CSO: 3010/1629

CONNOTATIONS OF MIDDENDORF'S VISIT ASSESSED

PY231945 Paris AFP in Spanish 1828 GMT 22 Jul 81

[Report by Oscar Martinez]

[Text] Montevideo, 22 Jul (AFP)--Diplomatic sources pointed out here today that a new era in the relations between the United States and southern cone military regimes, formerly charged with violating human rights, seems to be developing along clear-cut channels of understanding.

This conclusion has been reached at the end of a short visit paid by the new U.S. ambassador to the OAS, John Mitterand, thus expanding the list of U.S. high-ranking personalities who have visited this part of the continent ever since Ronald Reagan took over as U.S. President last January.

Upon meeting Mitterand, Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero said: "This moment could be of historic importance." It is also worth pointing out that Mitterand's first official action has been to visit the southern cone.

The issues discussed during the 24-hours which Mitterand spent in Montevideo have been kept confidential but, in any case, the excellent level of current bilateral relation has been emphasized, something which was never heard during Jimmy Carter's administration.

Mitterand, who is highly trusted by Reagan and is a former navy secretary, shares the anticommunist position of the U.S. chief of state and therefore has things in common with the southern cone governments who have fought guerrillas and communist parties, according to diplomatic sources.

One of the most visible effects of the changes implemented by the new White House administration regarding the treatment of countries in this part of the world, has been their recent rehabilitation before credit organizations.

Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, the four nations included in Mitterand's tour, "deserve Washington's support for loans from the World Bank and the IDB," according to a recent decision of the State Department.

The reason for this is that they have substantially improved the status of human rights. This decision is totally different from Carter's systematic opposition to loans for these countries whenever essential human needs were not involved.

Reagan's diplomatic offensive aimed at recovering old-time allies or at eliminating frictions with them also includes the arrival of two other high-ranking envoys to this region within the next few days.

The first of them is Gen Vernon Walters, Secretary of State Alexander Haig's right-hand man and former CIA directed [as received] under Richard Nixon's administration.

Being a follower of the same anti-Marxist line of thought, General Walters has been entrusted with the mission of coordinating alleged participation of South American troops in the Siani peace force which is supposed to be set into motion in April 1982.

To further strengthen the political turnabout, Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations well known for her staunch opposition to USSR's influence in America and a harsh critic of Carter's human rights policy, will also come to this part of the world.

At the same time, the sensitive international situation prevailing in various parts of the world seems to be compelling the United States to seek joint positions, especially within its area of influence in South America, according to diplomatic sources.

The internal strife in Central America, the possibility of Cuba's return to the OAS, the election for a new OAS secretary, the growing influence of small English-speaking nations of the Caribbean, as well as other matters, are drawing permanent attention.

The annual meeting of the United Nations is drawing nearer as well as that of the OAS. According to local diplomats these are additional reasons for the current U.S. offensive.

CSO: 3010/1624

BLANCO PARTY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON CURRENT PROBLEMS

PY312152 Paris AFP in Spanish 1450 GMT 31 Jul 81

[Text] Montevideo, 31 Jul (AFP)--The Blanco Party today called for changes in the economic policy, a reduction of the 3 1/2 year duration of the coming transitory government and the lifting of restrictions on the freedoms of press and meeting.

In the communique issued by its executive board, this traditional party stated that it was willing to cooperate in drawing up the rules and regulations which will apply to the activities of political parties but made it clear that it would be unsuitable to further delay the reinstatement of full freedom and normalcy of political parties pending the approval of these rules and regulations.

The communique pointed out that to achieve this normalcy it will suffice to lift certain partial restrictions still in effect with regard to the freedom to meet and to express opinions, and to discontinue the so-called prescriptions "since nothing prevents the implementation of these two measures if there is true desire to achieve national harmony and allow the parties to operate normally."

Further on the communique stated that the armed forces decision to hold direct talks with the most outstanding figures of the political parties opens excellent prospects for swift understanding.

It added, however, that dialogue cannot be restricted to the legal and formal aspects which the armed forces have brought up so far because there are other serious problems which are precluding the attainment of popular happiness and a true appeasement of the minds and feelings of all our fellow countrymen.

The communique pointed out the job instability of most public servants and the severe crisis which, because those responsible for the economic policy refuse to acknowledge it, is undermining the efforts of almost every basic production sector.

It indicated that the coming government will be responsible for resolving these burning problems and especially the dramatic situation of the agriculture and live-stock sector, a situation which will not be overcome as long as the current economic policy, which is also severely harming most industrial activities, remains in force.

As to the coming transition government, the communique stated that the 3 1/2 year period set for this government is too long in view of the nature of this phase, and rejected the appointment of the new president without popular participation.

The communique also stressed that the party's firm and repeatedly stated willingness to continue talks with those who have made this decision totally against national tradition and the democratic feelings of the Uruguayan people, does in no way imply solidarity or acceptance of this obviously unsuitable decision.

CSO: 3010/1627

LARGE GROUP OF POLITICAL LEADERS REHABILITATED

PY272006 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jul 81

[Excerpts] It has been reported that several citizens have been politically rehabilitated by the commission charged with interpreting the implementation of Institutional Act No 4 and that the appropriate notices have been conveyed to the interested parties.

Among those politically rehabilitated today is former senator Alejandro Zorrilla De San Martin. Further information in this regard is supplied by our mobile station No 1:

[Began relay] Information gathered by Radio El Espectador this morning indicated that former senator Alejandro Zorrilla De San Martin will travel to San Jose Department this afternoon where the chief of police himself will notify him that he has been politically rehabilitated.

The same apparently applies to former parliamentarian for San Jose Department (Nelson Morel), and other parliamentarians of the Blanco Party. They are: (Eladio Fernandez Menendez) of San Jose; (Alfonso Requeterena) of Rio Negro; and (Ricardo Rocha Imaz) of Montevideo. We are also able to confirm that (Victor Cortazo) deputy for Durazno Department who lost his political rights while carrying out the functions of under secretary of the Education and Culture Ministry, will also be notified this afternoon about his rehabilitation.

We have just learned that several parliamentarians of the Colorado Party have also been politically rehabilitated. They are (Locatelli) of Rio Negro and (Luis Bernardo Pozzolo) of the Unity and Reform Movement of Soriano Department. [end relay]

(Luis Pozzolo) former parliamentarian for the Unity and Reform Movement of Soriano Department has just confirmed that he has been notified of his political rehabilitation.

[Begin (Pozzolo) recording] In fact, the chief of the local police precinct station of this part of Montevideo came to my house at 1130 today and told me that the commission made up of Minister Yamandu Trinidad, Gen Julio Bonelli and State Councilor Viana Reyes had decided to rehabilitate me politically. Through this resolution, of which I have a copy, I have been excluded from the prohibition to carry out political activities established by Article 3 of Institutional Act No 4.

[Question] What will you do next, Mr (Pozzolo)?

[Answer] Well I believe that whatever has to be done next applies to all of us, I mean that one does not have to be a former legislator or politician to realize that the things which have to be done involve all of us. The fact is that our next task is to reorganize the political parties. It is possible that next year we will have elections to appoint the new party leaderships of the traditional parties and it is obvious that we all have a duty in this regard.

[Question] Have you reported the news of your rehabilitation to the leaders of your party?

[Answer] Not yet because it has just taken place. I am sure that tonight, when we have a better idea of the exact number of citizens who have been rehabilitated--a measure which in my opinion should have been general but which in any case constitutes progress within the framework of the current process--we will make the appropriate contacts. [end recording]

The latest information we have indicates that 22 former parliamentaries have been politically rehabilitated. It was reported recently that seven members of the Colorado Party and the same number of members of the Blanco Party have been notified of their rehabilitation by the commission charged with interpreting the implementation of Institutional Act No 4 headed by Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad.

These are the rehabilitated politicians: (Oscar Piedra) of the United and Reform Movement of Treinta Y Tres Department; (Raul Ferro) of the Unity and Reform Movement of Salto; (Horacio Tasarnaberri) also of the Unity and Reform Movement of Salto; (Jose Varese) of the Colorado Party of Salto; (Antonio Jorge) of the Unity and Reform Movement of Salto; (Hector Solviera Diaz) and (Benjamin Perdomo) Unity and Reform of Cerro Largo; (Jorge Silveira Zaval) and (Luis Felipe Gambio) of the Herrerista Faction of Cerro Largo; and (Carlos Navarette Nobilia) of the Rocha Movement of Cerro Largo; (Miguel Angel Galan) of the Pro-Fatherland Movement of Maldonado; (Ruben Franco Lino) of the Pro-Fatherland Movement of Paysandu; (Luis Elso Gomez) of the Rocha Movement of 33 Orientales; and (Ernesto Amorin Larraínaga) of the Rocha Movement, of Rocha Department.

Our mobile station No 1 has just confirmed that five citizens of the interior have also been notified of their political rehabilitation.

[Begin relay] Recently obtained information indicates that four of them are from Rivera Department: (Maximo Tavier) and (Carlos de Melo) of the Colorado Party and (Cesar Rodriguez Ibarburu) and (Antonio Amoros) of the Blanco Party. The fifth belongs to the Treinta Y Tres Department, he is (Juan Luis Pintos). [end relay]

CSO: 3010/1624

BRIEFS

MORE POLITICIANS REHABILITATED--The press room will now provide the latest report on citizens who have been politically rehabilitated. It has just been learned that one of them is (Washington Guadalupe). (Juan Pedro Zeballos) has also been politically rehabilitated, the former vice presidential candidate on the ticket headed by Dr (Alberto Gallinal). Other citizens, members of the Blanco Party, who have been rehabilitated during the past few hours are: (Walter Santoro) and (Elvio Casal), who are members of the Movement for the Fatherland [Movimiento Por La Patria]. Of the (Vasconcellos) group the list includes (Jorge Vila) and (Alfredo Miguez); and of the Unity and Reform Movement (Antonio Marquezano). (Federico Bauza) and (Ernesto Astorga) are included. With the inclusion of the above mentioned citizens, the number of politically rehabilitated citizens now amounts to 106, according to El Espectador's headcount. [Excerpt] [PY291800 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jul 81]

FORMER PRESIDENT REHABILITATED--Montevideo, 27 Jul (LATIN-REUTER)--Former Uruguayan President Jorge Pacheco Areco today was authorized to return to political activity. The government has lifted the restriction which would have prevented him from doing so until 1991, sources close to the former president said. Pacheco Areco, who was head of state from 1967 to 1971, is the leader of an important sector of the Colorado Party. Currently he is his country's ambassador to the United States. Today the names of various politicians to whom the government restored their political rights, taken away by an institutional act decreed in 1976, were made known. Pacheco Areco, however, is the first leader of one of the two traditional parties, Colorados and Blancos, to be named. The other principle leaders of these movements, Colorados Jorge Batlle and Amilcar Vasconcellos and Blancos Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, Carlos Julio Pereira, and Dardo Ortiz, are still proscribed from political activity. [Excerpt] [PY282352 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2210 GMT 27 Jul 81]

ARMY COMMANDER RETIRES--Montevideo, 30 Jul (TELAM)--Some changes have taken place in the high military hierarchy this morning when the commander of the First Army Division, Gen Hugo Linares Brun, was retired. He had reached the age limit for remaining on active duty at his rank. Last night the government approved the resolution retiring General Linares and designating the current commander of the Second Division, Gen Julio Cesar Rapella, to replace him. At the same time,

Rapella will be replaced by Gen Ivan Paulus, director of the Defense Intelligence Service (SID). Lt Gen Luis V. Queirolo, commander in chief of the army, this morning told TELAM that there is nothing planned about the future of General Linares Brun. Rapella and Paulus are members of the Armed Forces Commission for Political Affairs (COMASPO) but General Queirolo said that the fact that they have been appointed to new positions does not mean that the COMASPO membership will be changed. This commission was the organization in charge of lifting the proscription on about a hundred political leaders who were proscribed from political activity. [Text] [PY310006 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1318 GMT 30 Jul 81]

PRISONER DEATH QUESTIONED--Paris, 22 Jul (AFP)--In a communique issued here, the International Lawyers Secretariat for Amnesty in Uruguay (SIJAU) reported that Uruguayan political prisoner Horacio Dario Ramos Betancour died on 30 June 1981 at the Libertad military prison. The communique states that although Uruguayan officials have reported Betancour's death as a suicide both the Human Rights League and Amnesty International demanded the immediate clarification of the cause of his death. According to SIJAU, Betancour's suicide is unclear because he was a man whose strong willpower had been acknowledged by everyone and because his death was part of a series of suicides, the last one being that of Hugo Arnaldo Dermit Barbato, which was reported on 9 January 1981. SIJAU is also worried about the fate and physical safety of two other persons imprisoned on the island: Tabare Eloises Rivero Cedres and Jorge Selves Lawler. The latter should have been released on 18 February 1981. According to SIJAU, five political prisoners have died since September 1980 under circumstances which put into question the Uruguayan authorities' position. [Text] [PY302147 Paris AFP in Spanish 2032 GMT 22 Jul 81]

URUGUAYAN-SPANISH AGREEMENT--The Uruguayan Labor Minister Carlos Maeso and Spanish Secretary of State for Jobs and Labor Affairs (Manuel Nunes Perez) today signed a technical cooperation agreement in Montevideo. [PY040919 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jul 81 PY]

CSO: 3010/1627

END

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

27 Aug. 1981